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TORONTO WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2009 metronews

Celebrity Buzz

Mel's 3rd stint in rehab

pg 41

These little piglets found outside of McGuinty's office

TIM WIECLAWSKI
Metro Canada

FARMING The Ottawa Humane Society was called in to round up a farrow of piglets abandoned outside Premier Dalton McGuinty's constituency office yesterday morning.

The seven piglets were discovered around 7:15 a.m., in a makeshift pen with some food, water and bedding scattered over the sidewalk. However, the pen left the piglets with no access to shade.

The pigs were accompanied by bristle board posters and a stack of letters accusing McGuinty and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Minister Leona Dombrowsky of causing a crisis in the hog farming industry.

OHS inspectors are reviewing the incident and would not rule out the possibility of laying charges against the owner of the animals.

Travel pg 27

Coffee lovers' dream trip

CNE

Don't try this at home

RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Kristen Johnson, the world's foremost female escape artist, is performing two shows a day at the CNE with her partner and husband, Kevin Ridgeway. She is seen emerging from a tiny box that had been separated and run through with swords.

College flunking out

Report slams province for not keeping tabs on schools

Ontario's ombudsman slammed the provincial government yesterday for failing to keep closer tabs on publicly funded colleges in a report that found a northern Ontario school left some of its graduates unqualified for jobs.

After a months-long investigation into Cambrian College's two-year Health Information Management program, Andre Marin concluded it was not formally recognized by the Canadian Health Information Management Association, which controls entry into the profession.

"Ontarians are entitled to expect more of their institutions."
Andre Marin, ombudsman

"Ontarians are entitled to expect more of their institutions," Marin wrote in his report released yesterday.

Taking aim at the government, Marin added the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has "abdicated any responsibility to ensure that a college actually delivers a program."

The report recommends Cambrian compensate students for allowing them to enrol in a program that was "highly unlikely" to lead to employment.

The ombudsman's office said Cambrian disagreed with Marin's recommendation for compensation, but would contact students "to determine ways to find further resolution to their concerns."

Cambrian was not immediately available for comment.

Marin said he will continue to monitor the ministry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man faked abduction, cops say

Heart-wrenching pleas for the safe return of 22-year-old University of Toronto student who disappeared after saying he was being followed by three armed men have been answered, but not in a way family or friends could have imagined.

An anonymous call led police yesterday to a St. Catharines address where they arrested Furqan Muhammad-Haroon and charged him with mischief, saying he faked his own abduction last Saturday afternoon.

Furqan Muhammad-Haroon

Det. Karen Hunte said the anonymous call came yesterday afternoon and Muhammad-Haroon was found a few hours later. "He was alone and he is fine," she said last night.

Muhammad-Haroon was held overnight and is scheduled to appear in court today at 10 a.m.

Last night as the news spread, community members were relieved but angry and upset. "I'm glad he is safe but shocked that he could have done this," said Yahya Qureshi, principal of the Islamic Foundation of Toronto where Muhammad-Haroon studied.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Teen facing child pornography charges

An 18-year-old faces two child pornography charges after Halton Police seized a computer from the Oakville man's home. Eric Kreutzberg, 18, is charged with one count of child pornography possession and one count of making child pornography available. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Lung Association offers flu tips

The Lung Association has some simple advice for Canadians about how to protect themselves against a possible surge of the influenza A (H1N1) virus, also known as swine flu, this fall. Spokesman Dr. Peter MacLeod says frequent hand washing, using hand sanitizer and coughing into one's elbow are among the best ways to avoid the flu. MacLeod says if a child or parent has symptoms of the pandemic flu strain, they should stay home from school or work. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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INDEX

Canada Pg 8
Comment Pg 12
World Pg 13
Business Pg 14
Sports Pg 16
Workology Pg 20
Entertainment Pg 35
Celebrity Buzz Pg 40

Tomorrow's Metro

Comment
Sofi Papamarko discusses relationships between older men and younger women

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach warns it may take years for the province's finances to fully recover at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs Hollywood Rants on how one of the year's lousiest films inspired one of the year's coolest costumes

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'I was not motivated by hate'

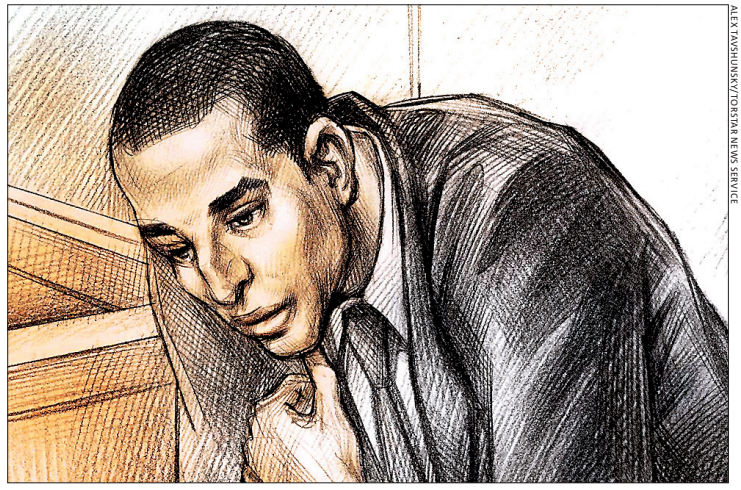
'Toronto 18' member apologizes for his role in terror plot

The Toronto-area man who took part in a conspiracy to blow up prominent landmarks in the city's downtown told court yesterday he made "a huge mistake" as his lawyer asked for a two-year prison term for his client.

Saad Khalid, 23, told a Brampton courtroom that he accepted responsibility for his role in the domestic terror plot to detonate bombs outside the Toronto Stock Exchange and CSIS headquarters in 2006.

Dressed in a black suit and pinstriped white shirt, and sporting the faint beginnings of a beard, Khalid said from the prisoner's box that he wanted people to know his true motives: His "disagreement" with Canada's foreign policy, specifically the country's involvement in Afghanistan.

"I was not motivated by a hate for Canada, Canadians, democracy, or Canadian values of freedom, civil liberties, and women's rights," Khalid read from a prepared speech.



ALEX TAVSHUNSKY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Saad Khalid, seen in this court sketch, and his lawyer have asked for a two-year sentence for Khalid's role in an alleged terror plot intended to bomb the Toronto Stock Exchange in 2006.

Khalid was arrested in June 2006 while unloading what he and his fellow alleged conspirators believed was at least two tonnes of ammonium nitrate, according to an uncontested statement of facts entered earlier in his sentencing hearing.

One of the members of the so-called Toronto 18, Khalid pleaded guilty in May to one count of participating in a terror plot with the intention of causing an explosion.

The seven others have since had their charges dropped.

The identities of the other members of the small terror cell Khalid belonged to are protected by a publication ban.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SARAH DEA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ngawang Chophol, a Turtle Island worker, collects green bins around Etobicoke.

Toronto not as green as thought?

WASTE Toronto residents are putting only about one-half of their organic waste into the popular green bins, city documents show.

While the City of Toronto frequently states that 30 per cent of all household waste are "Green Bin organics," it turns out homeowners, on average, place just 16.2 per cent of their household waste into green bins. This information was gleaned from a letter sent to the Toronto Star in libel proceedings brought by top city garbage official Geoff Rathbone. A calculation based on figures Rathbone's lawyer sent to the Star reveal that Toronto, though doing well, has a long way to go before it reaches that 30 per cent target. City officials have refused several requests to be interviewed about this matter over the past week.

Cities like Toronto are working to increase their garbage diversion rates in the race to become the greenest.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

KISS It appears Oshawa will get its Kiss concert. Mayor John Gray told CTV News last night that he spoke to Kiss manager Doc McGhee and was assured a concert is scheduled for Oshawa on Oct. 7. Residents were miffed when, after winning an online contest to have the band play Oshawa — beating their closest competitor by 2,000 votes — the closest venue on Kiss's tour schedule was Toronto on Oct 2. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Express lane to York U crawling

TRAFFIC York University students who thought they would be getting a shorter trip to school this fall won't be able to hit the snooze button after all.

A new express lane for buses that was supposed to shave seven minutes off the typical 20-minute rush-hour trip to campus from the Downsview subway won't open in September as was promised.

Funding

- The $38-million project was originally supposed to be finished last year but got held up by delays in environmental assessments and funding approvals from senior governments.

And a new policy that would allow students and staff to use the same ticket for York Region Viva or TTC bus service from Downsview also is being delayed until January.

The TTC's Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113, which also represents Viva drivers, had some concerns and transit officials have agreed to delay the integrated service, said TTC spokesperson Brad Ross.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Union leadership changing hands
Canada's largest teachers' union has chosen Sam Hammond to take the reins of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Khadr continues to be a Tory thorn

Critics attack government's refusal to bring Canadian home from military prison

The Harper government is facing fierce criticism over its latest effort to avoid bringing Omar Khadr home from a U.S. military prison.

The government announced yesterday that it is seeking leave to appeal to the Supreme Court to dismiss a court order that it seek Khadr's return.

The move comes after Ottawa lost an appeal at the Federal Court of Appeal this month.

Ottawa has consistently refused to ask the United States to return Toronto-born Khadr from its prison in Guantanamo Bay where he has been held for seven years.

Khadr, 22, is accused of throwing a grenade that killed an American soldier in Afghanistan seven years ago.

Documents and testimony have shown he was mistreated by U.S. interrogators.

"The government of Canada has consistently stated that Omar Khadr faces serious charges," said a statement from the office of Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon.

Lawrence Cannon

The statement notes that Khadr faces murder, attempted murder, conspiracy, material support for terrorism and spying charges — "all in violation of the laws of war."

It does not address the issue of Khadr's age and the fact that he was a minor at the time the alleged offences took place.

Opposition parties accused the Conservatives of putting ideology ahead of human rights and international law.

"This government has a terrible record about protecting Canadian citizens overseas," said Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff.

"It is not just Omar Khadr ... In case after case after case they appear to pick and choose which Canadians they want to protect and which they don't."

NDP justice critic Joe Comartin said the government has to obey the law.

"This government seems to have a masochistic streak about this," he said. "How many times do they have to be told that they must abide by the Charter?" THE CANADIAN PRESS

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ed Snook holds up Paul Croutch's ashes after Croutch was honoured in a memorial outside the Good Neighbours' Club at 170 Jarvis St. during the inaugural The Day of the Homeless.

A casualty of poverty and intolerance

HOMELESS Under the harsh sun and in the smog of Jarvis Street traffic, Raymond May fidgeted in the heavy suit he wore for his friend's memorial. He scrunched up his face several times, in obvious pain.

As the afternoon wore on, he removed his jacket and rolled up his sleeves, revealing a faded tattoo on his left arm.

He maintained his composure for most of the ceremony, but when the Salvation Army brass band exhaled the mournful harmonies of How Great Thou Art, May, 65, reached for a tissue.

This was a memorial for more than just a homeless man; it was a memorial for Paul Croutch, 59, a former small town newspaper publisher, a husband and friend, a humorous, quiet man who struggled against alcoholism and paranoia.

It also unveiled an annual event, The Day of the Homeless, designed to humanize people on the streets. Croutch was beaten to death by drunken soldiers as he slept in 2005. Near the end of the ceremony May was called back up to remove a maroon cloth and reveal a burnished plaque that read: One of our own, a casualty of poverty and intolerance. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Todorovic to appeal murder conviction

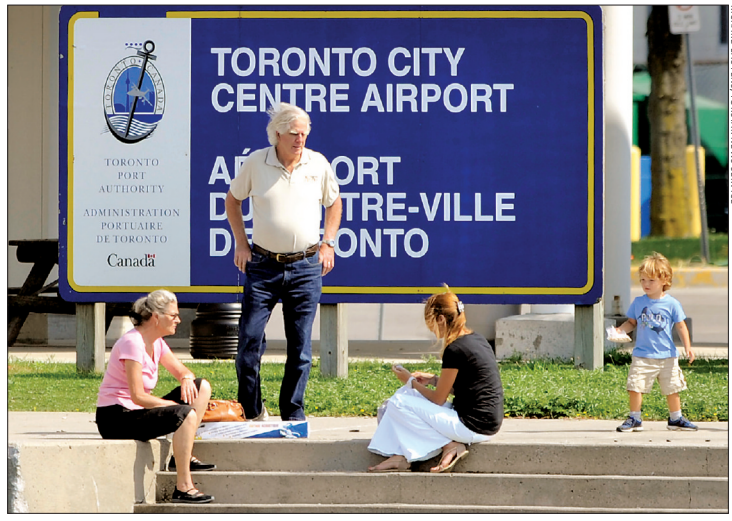
COURT The girl who pressured her boyfriend into murdering Stefanie Rengel will appeal her conviction for first-degree murder, a family member says.

The close relative of Melissa Todorovic, who spoke outside youth court yesterday on condition of anonymity, said the family is seeking a lawyer to argue the appeal.

Melissa Todorovic

Marshall Sack, Todorovic's trial lawyer, has recommended that she appeal both the conviction and sentence, but said yesterday he will not be handling it.

Todorovic, 17, was sentenced as an adult to an automatic life sentence and must serve seven years before she can apply for parole — the maximum allowed under the Youth Criminal Justice Act for someone who, like her, committed first-degree murder when she was under age 16. Yesterday, Justice Ian Nordheimer agreed with the defence and Crown that Todorovic remain in a youth facility, as required by law, until she is 20, when she is due to be transferred to an adult prison. If someone wishes to bring an application to let her stay longer in the youth facility, they can do so closer to that time, prosecutor Robin Flumerfelt told the judge. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Access to the Toronto City Centre Airport (island airport) is yet again mired in controversy. A bridge plan was cancelled in 2003 by Mayor David Miller but now a pedestrian tunnel is proposed.

Please note, this tunnel is not a bridge

FUNDING Repeat after the Toronto Port Authority.

This is not the 2003 bridge debate.

"It's like comparing mountain climbing and scuba diving," says board chairman Mark McQueen.

In what way?

"Bridges and tunnels," McQueen says with an air of nonchalant finality.

After a moment's pause, he elaborates. Unlike a bridge, no taxpayer can call a tunnel an eyesore. Unlike a bridge, no sailor can call a tunnel an obstacle.

And in 2003, when David Miller was running for mayor on a promise to kill a proposed bridge to the island airport, Porter Airlines existed only in the dreams of chief executive Robert Deluce. Now, as the port authority awaits word on its bid for federal stimulus funding for a proposed tunnel, Porter is a popular entity that flies about 500,000 passengers a year.

"I don't think it's similar at all," Deluce concurs.

There is at least one more major difference between the tunnel debate and the bridge debate.

In 2003, Deluce and the Port Authority argued the bridge was essential to the success of the airport.

Yesterday, conversely, Deluce and McQueen praised the performance of the current ferry system, saying a tunnel would merely be a preferable alternative. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

ECONOMY Premier Dalton McGuinty will today deliver the hard sell to some of the people most fearful of the new harmonized sales tax — Liberal MPPs worried about their jobs. McGuinty will deliver a pointed presentation on how critical the HST is to Ontario's economic future at the Toronto Board of Trade.

TAXES Toronto's biggest office towers are appealing a court ruling that favoured the city in a dispute over how much they should pay in property taxes. At issue is an Aug. 11 decision by a three-judge panel of the Ontario Divisional Court that struck down a prior ruling by the Assessment Review Board. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Durham cops looking for vehicles after shots fired in Pickering driveway

Just after midnight Sunday, a resident on Whites Road north of Finch Avenue reported hearing gunshots at the foot of his driveway and seeing two vehicles leave the scene. Police found a .22-calibre shell casing and a live round at the scene believed to belong to the same weapon, said Sgt. Nancy van Rooy. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Burlesque inspires confidence

When Cheri Finch first considered taking burlesque classes the thought seemed intimidating.

A room full of women, flaunting boas, peeling off silk gloves, all the while oozing powerful sensuality, was not exactly commonplace for the 48-year-old corporate manager.

Determined to try something different, though, Finch ignored the butterflies in her stomach, took her first class and has been hooked ever since.

"It gives you a self-confidence," says the Calgary native. "It makes you feel good about yourself."

Burlesque instructor Coco Framboise, who runs the Coco Framboise School of Burlesque in Toronto, says indulging in the feel-good sessions is akin to treating yourself to a sumptuous dessert, without the calories.

"It's like the taste of a really rich piece of cake," she says.

> **"It's like the taste of a really rich piece of cake."**
> Coco Framboise

A seasoned performer who has strutted across stages the world over, Framboise says in addition to tease and technique, burlesque is about telling a story and immersing oneself into any character of choice.

"I think there's something really exciting about trying on an alter ego," she says. "It makes the day-to-day a little bit juicer, a little bit more decadent."

Students learn how to make something as simple as taking off a glove sizzle with seduction, while a stocking tease takes sexy, and stretching, to a whole other level.

While teaching her students to strut their stuff, Framboise spices up her sessions by sharing inside tips only a showgirl can know.

"Lip gloss and feathers don't mix," she says seriously, when pressed for an example of the wisdom she offers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MANUELA PARARAS-HULBERT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Burlesque teacher and performer Coco Framboise.

Man arrested in slaying outside Brunswick House

CHARGED Toronto police have made an arrest in the shooting death of 23-year-old Sebastian Herrera, who was gunned down outside a popular Annex-area bar in late July.

Police said they arrested a man around 6 p.m. yesterday in his home on Glenholme Avenue near Dufferin Street and Eglinton Avenue West. Detectives said they had been tracking the suspect for the past month before the arrest.

Sgt. Paul Sweenie of 14 Division confirmed to the Toronto Star the man was 22-year-old Marvin Jarrett, who had been wanted on charges of first-degree murder and attempted murder in connection to the case.

"I just saw it on the news," Herrera's father Enrique told the Star last night, adding the police hadn't informed him of the arrest.

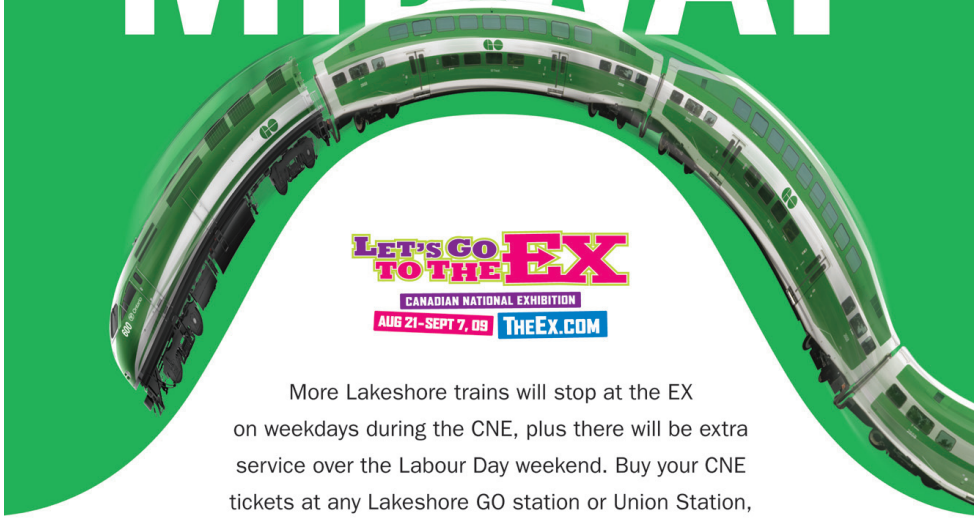
"It doesn't matter to me right now. I don't feel OK right now. It will not be any help for me anyways," he said solemnly.

Friends and family said Herrera was "a good guy who didn't deserve to die," and was to start college in two weeks in the hope of becoming a lab assistant. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

TRAINING Pharmacists, teachers, engineers and doctors are the careers with the highest proportion of foreign-trained professionals in this province, says the annual report of Ontario's Office of the Fairness Commissioner. "We are happy with the process and good co-operation from the (regulatory) bodies. Everyone is trying to move forward, though we still have some little challenges," said Ontario Fairness commissioner Jean Augustine. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE BEST WAY TO THE MIDWAY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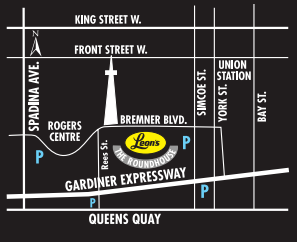

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Task force to look into missing women in Manitoba

Police and the Manitoba government are expected to create a task force to look into the disappearance and murder of numerous women. An announcement is expected as early as today. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Recovery will take time: Stelmach

Premier Ed Stelmach, left, says it could take two or three years for Alberta's depleted revenues to recover from the recession. Stelmach says despite speculation of a record $7-billion budget deficit this year, his government won't raise taxes and is reluctant to cut jobs. The premier says Alberta will use $17 billion in savings to cover deficits over the next few years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Newly jobless finding relief

But roughly half of unemployed Canadians not getting EI: StatsCan

A vast majority of the newly jobless are receiving some relief from the much-criticized Canadian employment insurance system, new figures released yesterday suggest.

Statistics Canada reported 316,300 more Canadians were receiving employment insurance benefits in June than in October, a nine-month period that saw net unemployment rise by 370,000.

While the figures are not a straight correlation, a Statistics Canada official said it was clear a large percentage of workers who lost their jobs during the recession are able to collect EI benefits, giving a boost to the Conservative government's contention the system is working as designed and doesn't need wholesale changes.

816,600

The number of Canadians who collected EI benefits in June, according to Statistics Canada.

TD Bank chief economist Don Drummond said the government could take credit for another reason — the decision to tackle duration of benefits rather than eligibility requirements. In the January budget, Ottawa extended benefits to laid off workers by up to five weeks to about a year in some cases.

Drummond said if economists are correct in forecasting continuing job losses until next year, the next flare-up in the EI debate will be that workers are running out of benefits.

But Liberal human resources critic Michael Savage said the figures still show the system is failing Canadians.

"We still have 1.6 million unemployed and half are not getting EI," he stressed.

In June, 816,600 Canadians, or 51.3 per cent of the 1.6 million officially unemployed, were collecting benefits. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ancaster **Industrial park fire**

JOHN RENNISON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A firefighter is shown at the scene of a blaze in an industrial park just west of Ancaster. The blaze broke out just before 3 a.m. yesterday at a facility that manufactures office furniture.

News in brief

DOLLAR The Bank of Canada is warning it is prepared to intervene to ensure Canada's fragile economic recovery is not derailed by a resurgent loonie. With evidence mounting that the economy is emerging from a short but deep recession, deputy governor Timothy Lane cautioned yesterday that the recovery is still uncertain and the loonie's strength is worrying.

JENKINS U.S. police say they should soon have a better idea of exactly what happened between former reality television contestant Ryan Jenkins and his murdered ex-wife, but all signs point to Jenkins as the sole suspect. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ignatieff tries to dispel election rumours

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff is showing the party flag in the Northwest Territories. During a visit to Yellowknife, Ignatieff tried to dispel rumours of a fall election. He says federal Liberals want good government, not an election. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Layton suggests he'd back any attempt to dump Harper

OTTAWA Jack Layton says Stephen Harper just doesn't seem to understand how bad the unemployment situation is — and it could cost him his job.

The NDP leader emerged from a meeting with the prime minister yesterday, strongly hinting he would back any attempt to bring down the minority Conservative government this fall. Layton said the pair had a "lively debate," but there was no sign Harper is willing to compromise on "fundamental issues" such as job creation, infrastructure funding, and employment insurance reform.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP Leader Jack Layton is followed by protesters yesterday as he makes his way to a meeting with the prime minister in Ottawa.

"It struck me that he doesn't really seem to understand — or be willing to act if he does understand — the depth of the unemployment situation and how it continues to get worse, and the urgency of an additional stimulus package to help kick-start job creation."

The Harper-Layton meeting was just the first in a series of political dances that could decide whether there will be a fall election.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada has done its share: MacKay

On a day of grim news from Afghanistan, Defence Minister Peter MacKay delivered a blunt message to the U.S. and other NATO allies.

If they're looking for more troops, they shouldn't look to Canada.

MacKay says he hasn't felt any direct pressure from the U.S. government yet for Canada to extend its combat mission beyond 2011.

> **"There are many countries in line before Canada that should be approached."**
> Peter MacKay, defence minister

But if that day ever comes, MacKay says Canada has already done its share and plenty of other countries should be approached instead to step up.

"I think there's a continued call to NATO allies for them to contribute more," MacKay told a news conference yesterday.

"But there are many countries in line before Canada that should be approached before they would come knocking on our door, I would suggest to you."

The comments come as senior U.S. military officers are going public with their demand for more troops, and admitting the conflict is not going well for NATO.

That reality was underscored yesterday by spectacular explosions in the province where Canadian soldiers are based.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

BREAST CANCER A new study suggests long-term use of tamoxifen is linked to an increased risk of a second type of breast cancer. U.S. researchers looked at more than 700 women who had been diagnosed with breast cancer and compared them to nearly 400 diagnosed with both a first and second breast cancer. Researchers found women who received tamoxifen for five or more years lowered their risk of developing the more common type of breast cancer that responds to estrogen-blocking therapy. But the study found the risk of another rare subtype of the disease increased by more than 400 per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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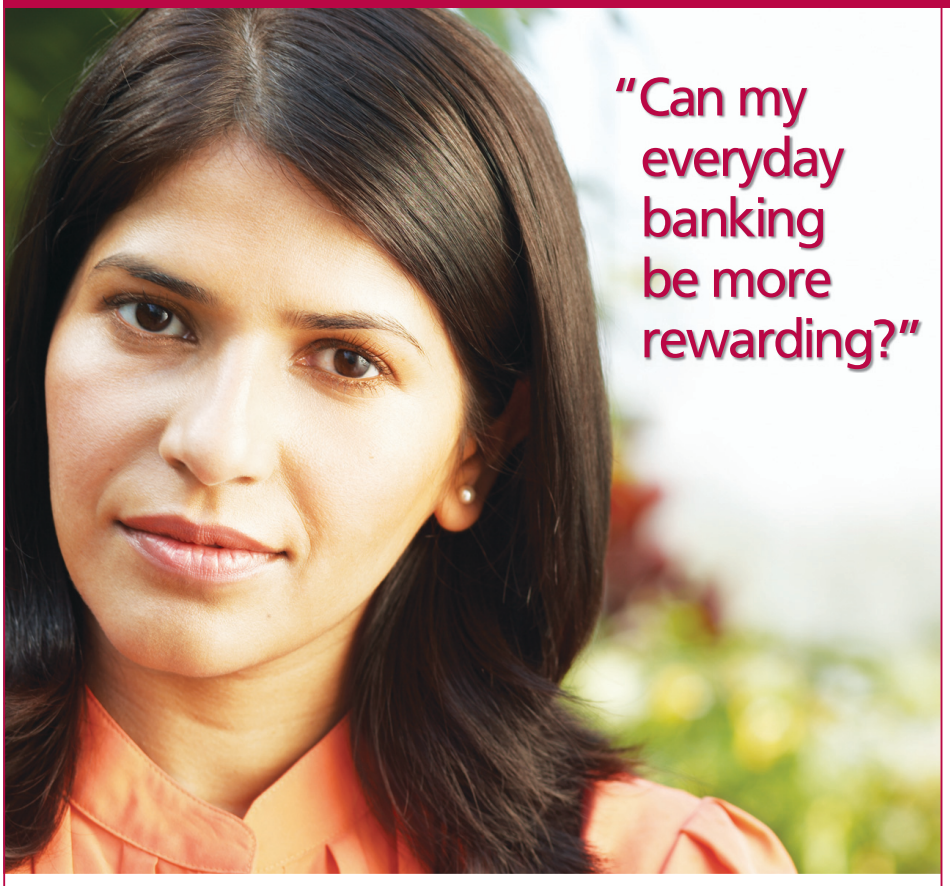

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Comment

Modern twists on tragic love tale

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

I can't believe I'm writing this, but the Ryan Jenkins/Jasmine Fiore saga has a tragic, almost Shakespearean quality that elevates it above what one reporter called its "grimy glamour."

While its seamy details have cranked the reality TV/tabloid industry into hyperdrive, even threatening to replace Michael Jackson's bizarre addictions as the lead item, this story says something about our times and the people caught up in them.

Ryan, from Calgary, and Jasmine, from Bonny Doon, a suburb of Santa Cruz, Calif., were once real people.

Ryan worked with his father and made real estate deals in Canada's oil capital. He gave flying lessons. He was accomplished.

Jasmine, a.k.a. Jasmine Lepore, was once an athletic girl who loved dogs and horses and dreamed of becoming an actress.

Today they are dead. Jasmine's body was found mutilated to hide her identity, stuffed in a suitcase and discarded in a park near Los Angeles, where it was found by a homeless person. Ryan was the prime (and apparently only) suspect. On the run, he was found dead from an apparent suicide in a cheap hotel room in Hope, B.C.

Before they died, they both caught Hollywooditis, which is often fatal. It affects the heart and soul and transforms its victims into strangers to their loved ones and, I suspect, themselves.

Jasmine changed her name, got a boob job, posed for Playboy and married Ryan, a guy she'd known for two days in Vegas. Ryan became a professional lounge lizard, signing up for "reality" shows called Megan Wants a Millionaire and I Love Money 3, both VH1 productions that wallow in greed and soft porn.

Almost inevitably, these two fakes found each other and that's when reality (the real thing) set in, like the mother of all hangovers.

It would take Shakespeare at the height of his powers to capture all the irony that taints this story. At its core, a most bitter twist: Although Jasmine's killer — allegedly Ryan — pulled her teeth out and cut off her fingers to obscure her identity, the CSI wizards identified her by the serial numbers on her breast implants. Even Shakespeare would have a tough time coming up with that one.

If there was ever a Romeo and Juliet for the reality TV generation, this is it, a cautionary tale for people who think in 10-second sound bites or 140-character Tweets, rather than Acts 1, 2 or 3. The form may be different, but the outcome is the same. The lovers end up dead and the rest is silence … at least until the next exclusive report, after these messages from our sponsor.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Is global warming responsible for the extreme weather happening worldwide?

Andrew Spencer
age 40, Toronto

A: Yes … It has a lot to do with the industrial revolution that has put all the toxic waste and gas into the environment. It's an accumulation of years of neglect and greed.

Susan Travers
age 34, Toronto

A: I think so. I haven't done a lot of research into it, but I believe that scientists attribute it to global warming.

Nick Spagnola
age 19, Toronto

A: I believe so. Meteorologists are always saying that it's going to be a nice day and then it turns out being something totally different.

Robyn Carruthers
age 27, Ottawa

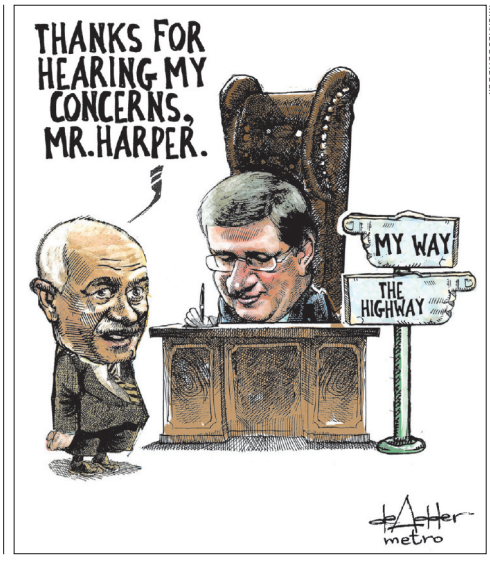
A: In broader terms, the larger trends … yes, absolutely. The weather's changing, the climate's changing.

Sam Jomha
age 31, Edmonton

A: No, because historical weather patterns show that weather's always been like that, it's cyclical.

Tania Mondragon
age 32, Vancouver

A: I think it is related. We've reached the point where nobody has cared about the environment for so long and this is the result. It's a wake-up call to all of us.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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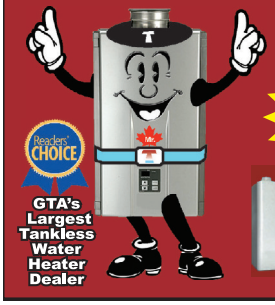

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Brown 'repulsed' by hero's welcome for bomber

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown declared yesterday that he was "repulsed" by Libya's welcome to the released Lockerbie bomber. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Race neck-and-neck in early Afghan returns

President Hamid Karzai and top challenger Abdullah Abdullah both have roughly 40 per cent of the nationwide vote for president with 10 per cent of polling stations counted, the Afghan election commission said yesterday as it announced the first official returns.

If neither Karzai nor Abdullah gets more than 50 per cent of the vote, the two will face each other in a runoff, likely in early October.

The Independent Election Commission plans to release more results in the coming days, but final certified results of last week's election won't be ready until at least mid-September.

Low voter turnout and allegations of fraud have cast a pall over the election. Abdullah has accused Karzai of widespread vote rigging, including ballot stuffing and voter intimidation. Karzai's camp has levelled similar accusations. Both campaigns have denied the claims.

The Independent Election Commission announced that Karzai has 40.6 per cent and Abdullah has 38.7 per cent of the votes in the country's first official returns since millions of Afghans voted for president last Thursday.

Allegations of vote rigging mounted yesterday. Abdullah for the first time showed marked ballots, pictures and video of alleged fraud.

Abdullah showed reporters a packet of ballots with an official stamp on the back — used to mark cast ballots — nearly all checked for Karzai. He also showed video of what he said were Karzai supporters in eastern Ghazni province marking dozens of ballots for Karzai, and a picture of a polling site in the south showing people he said were Karzai campaign officials looking over the shoulders of voters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dozens dead in Kandahar bombing

- A cluster of vehicle bombs detonated simultaneously near a foreign-owned company that plans to build a road through an insurgent-held area. At least 41 people were killed, all civilians, officials said. The thundering explosion in the Taliban's spiritual homeland occurred just after nightfall yesterday in a district that includes UN facilities and an Afghan intelligence office. So many houses and nearby buildings had collapsed that officials feared the death toll could rise further. At least 66 people were wounded, said Gen. Ghulam Ali Wahabat, a police commander in charge of southern Afghanistan.

News in brief

KENYA Crops have shrivelled, hundreds of cattle are dead and the World Food Program said yesterday that 3.8 million Kenyans need emergency food aid because of a prolonged drought, which is even causing electrical blackouts in the capital because there's not enough water for hydroelectric plants. With rivers thinning to a trickle and mountaintop glaciers shrinking, authorities this month began rationing power in Nairobi.

TALIBAN The Pakistani Taliban acknowledged yesterday that its top leader, Baitullah Mehsud, was dead, ending weeks of claims over his fate following a U.S. missile strike this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Setting sail Around the world

JOHN NY/NO-BAPTISTE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In a January 2007 file photo, British sailor Mike Perham, then 14, smiles upon his arrival to St. John's, Antigua. Perham, now 17, is expected to become youngest sailor to sail around the world.

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VRX shares up after big revenue gain
Shares of VRX Worldwide Inc. soared yesterday after the company reported a return to profitability in the second quarter powered by a 52 per cent gain in revenue. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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ADVANCING GENERICS

No rate hike expected

The Bank of Canada is unlikely to hike interest rates until 2011 because the lingering effects of the global economic meltdown will continue to mute both growth and inflation, according to a report issued yesterday by CIBC World Markets.

"While the 2009 recession may already be over, the slack it created is both large and likely to persist," said CIBC chief economist Avery Shenfeld.

"Unlike the Bank of Canada, we don't expect growth to average above the non-inflationary potential until 2011," Shenfeld added.

"But even under (Bank of Canada) governor (Mark) Carney's more optimistic trajectory, inflation will still be feeling the downward pressure of a sizable output gap next year, one as large as we saw in the early 1980s and 1990s downturns."

He predicted both headline and core prices would cross paths in the second quarter of 2010, at a level well less than the Bank of Canada's two per cent target.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> "While the 2009 recession may already be over, the slack it created is both large and likely to persist."
> Avery Shenfeld, CIBC chief economist

Business in brief

EARNINGS BMO Financial Group kicked off a slew of earnings reports from Canadian banks yesterday by reporting an increase in third-quarter profits led by strong performance from its Canadian personal and commercial banking operations. The Toronto-based bank reported net income of $557 million for the quarter ended July 31, up seven per cent from year-earlier profits of $521 million.

FED CHAIRMEN U.S. President Barack Obama announced yesterday he wants to keep Ben Bernanke on as Fed chairman, saying he shepherded America through the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Australian investor takes over Calgary tourism company

CanaDream Corp., a Calgary-based tourism company, says Australia's Apollo Motorhome Ultimate Holdings Pty Ltd. has made an investment of nearly $2 million into the Canadian company, giving it effective control. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian Royalties reject takeover bid

MINING The board of Canadian Royalties rejected a $148.5-million hostile takeover bid from China-based Jien Canada Mining Ltd. yesterday as inadequate and opportunistic, and said it may seek out other bidders for a better offer.

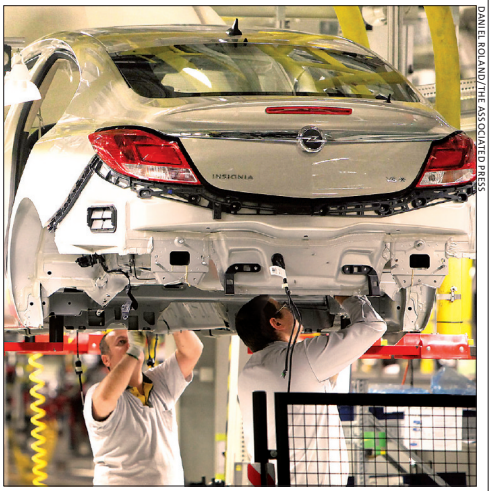
"The board concluded that the Jien offer substantially undervalues Canadian Royalties and fails to recognize the strategic value of the Nunavik Nickel Project," CEO and board chairman Glenn Mullan said during a conference call. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

EARNINGS Convenience store operator Alimentation Couche-Tard reported yesterday that its profits more than doubled to $91.1 million US during the first quarter despite a 15 per cent drop in sales, mainly due to lower fuel prices. The Laval, Que.-based company, which reports in U.S. dollars, earned 48 cents per share for the period ended July 19, compared to 24 cents, when earnings totalled $47.2 million, a year earlier. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GM weighs the bids to purchase Opel

General Motors' top negotiator met yesterday with a task force of German federal and state officials as rumours swirled about the future of the automaker's European Opel unit. No decision or statement about the talks was announced.



DANIEL ROLAND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Dec. 3, 2008, file photo, workers are seen at the assembly line at the Opel plant in Ruesselsheim, Germany.

John Smith met with the German government's "Opel Task Force" as the two sides grappled with differences over which of the two suitors' offers was better.

The German government favours an offer from Canadian auto parts maker Magna International Inc. and Russian state-owned bank Sberbank over an offer from Brussels-based investor RHJ International SA, because fewer jobs are at risk under Magna's offer.

Opel employs about 25,000 people in Germany, about half of GM Europe's total work force. German politicians have been keen to safeguard jobs ahead of elections in September.

The government is a key player in the negotiations because it is offering financial help to make a deal possible, including the $6.5-billion credit sought for the Magna bid to avoid lengthy negotiations with other European countries that have Opel facilities.

Opel workers also largely backed Magna's plan.

Magna is based in Aurora and headed by Austrian-born entrepreneur Frank Stronach. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Former NBA ref arrested again

Disgraced former NBA referee Tim Donaghy is back behind bars, accused of violating his federal probation by not showing up for work, the U.S. Marshals Service said. Donaghy, 42, was being held without bond a day after his arrest at a halfway house in Tampa where he was finishing his 15-month sentence for gambling charges. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Cowboys hang 'em low

The NFL plans to discuss the massive video boards that hang over the field at the new Cowboys Stadium. The 60-yard long high-definition screens hanging 90 feet over the field appear to be easy targets for punters. Titans rookie A.J. Trapasso booted a ball into the screens in the first game there Friday. The Cowboys consulted the NFL about the screens during construction of the nearly $1.2-billion US stadium. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Men's coxed pair into world rowing final

POLAND Canada advanced to the final in the men's coxed pair at the world rowing championships yesterday.

Jan Tize of West Vancouver, B.C., Conlin McCabe of Brockville, Ont., and coxswain Mark Laidlaw of Mississauga finished third in the repechage with a time of seven minutes 33.77 seconds to clinch a spot in Sunday's final.

The top four crews advanced. France won in 7:32.65, Germany was second in 7:33.28 while Italy finished fourth in 7:47.39. The Czech Republic and the U.S. already qualified for the final by winning their heats earlier in the week.

"At no point can we assume that any of the crews are going to be out of this race," Laidlaw said in a release.

Laidlaw is also the coxswain of the men's eight, which booked its ticket to the final Monday with a win in the heats.

Meanwhile, the Canadian adaptive coxed four advanced to the final with a win in the repechage in a time of 3:53.32.

The Canadian crew is Anthony Theriault of Nanaimo, B.C., Meghan Montgomery and Stuart Starkey of Winnipeg, Victoria Nolan of Toronto and (cox) Laura Comeau of St. Catharines.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

From fan to phenom

Sid the Kid excited about 'once-in-a-lifetime opportunity'

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Canada

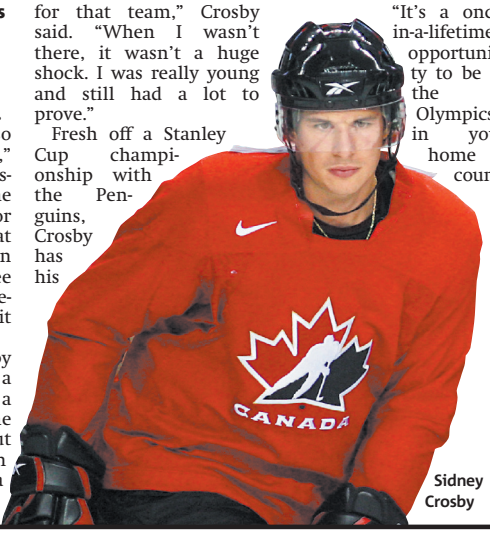
When the Canadian men's hockey team won gold at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Sidney Crosby celebrated as a fan like the rest of us.

"At the time you felt so lucky to witness that," Crosby said after practising on a line with Jarome Iginla and Rick Nash for the second straight day at Team Canada's orientation camp in Calgary. "To see the whole country celebrate the way they did, it was pretty awesome."

Four years later, Crosby was well on his way to a 102-point campaign as a rookie forward with the Pittsburgh Penguins, but that still didn't earn him a spot on Team Canada for the 2006 Games in Turin, Italy.

"Never in a million years would I have thought my name would be considered for that team," Crosby said. "When I wasn't there, it wasn't a huge shock. I was really young and still had a lot to prove."

Fresh off a Stanley Cup championship with the Penguins, Crosby has his sights set on helping lead Canada to gold in February in Vancouver at the 2010 Games.



Sidney Crosby

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be in the Olympics in your home country," said Crosby, who realizes there will be tremendous pressure on Canada to rebound from a seventh-place showing four years ago. "That's to be expected. If anything, it should be helping as far as motivation and making sure that guys are full of energy."

The orientation camp will help Crosby get familiarized with players he will potentially be teaming up with six months from now.

"The important thing about having the camp is guys like Sidney can get to meet the Jaromes and get more familiar with them, so when they get in that locker room in Vancouver they'll be very comfortable and they're not meeting their teammates for the first time," said Team Canada executive director Steve Yzerman.

Reinsdorf out, NHL in on Coyotes sweepstakes

HOCKEY A group headed by Jerry Reinsdorf has pulled out of the possible purchase of the Phoenix Coyotes just as the NHL filed a bid in U.S. Bankruptcy Court to buy the team and keep it in Arizona.

Reinsdorf's group said it was unable to meet yesterday's court deadline for submitting a firm offer.

The group, in a statement, complained of an "unwilling seller" and "an organized publicity effort designed to provide negative and misleading information to interested parties."

The Reinsdorf group also said it had not been able to reach an agreement with the city of Glendale on an acceptable lease deal to play in Jobing.com Arena.

The NHL bid apparently was the only one filed by the deadline that would keep the team in Arizona. Jim Balsillie filed an amended purchase agreement Monday, offering $212.5 million US, contingent on moving the franchise to Hamilton.

If Judge Redfield T. Baum throws out Balsillie's offer because the NHL board of governors rejected his application, by a 26-0 vote, to own the Coyotes, that could leave the league with the only bid.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

NFL Serena and Venus Williams paid a visit to the Miami Dolphins' complex yesterday as the latest celebrities to own a small stake in the franchise. Their deal, first reported last week, was confirmed at a news conference overlooking the Dolphins' practice field.

FORMULA ONE India has rejected the idea of extending sports-linked customs duty exemptions that would have made it cheaper to import equipment being used for the construction of a Formula One race track. India is keen to join the F1 grand prix circuit in 2011 on a course being built on the outskirts of New Delhi.

NFL Terrell Owens still isn't ready to play. Coach Dick Jauron yesterday ruled out Owens from playing in a pre-season game at Pittsburgh Saturday because the receiver is still nursing a sprained toe. Owens has been out since jamming his foot on Aug. 9.

BOLT Usain Bolt's agent says representatives for the record-breaking track star are in talks with publishers about a biography. Ricky Simms says he's negotiating a deal for a book for the sprinter but can't discuss many details yet. As for the scope of the book or how much of Bolt's off-track life might be included, Simms says all those aspects are being negotiated.

BASEBALL Ichiro Suzuki's quest to make history is being stalled longer than expected. Seattle Mariners manager Don Wakamatsu said before last night's game against Oakland that his nine-time all-star will not return today from a sore calf as the team had hoped. He is 16 hits short of becoming the first player in major league history to have nine consecutive seasons with 200 or more hits.

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Eagles seek to raise awareness
The NFL's Philadelphia Eagles met with animal rights groups this week in an effort to raise awareness about animal cruelty. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ending on a high note

Canada's Little League World Series run finishes with walk-off win

Canada closed out the Little League World Series with a wild win over Germany yesterday.

Katie Reyes' two-run single helped Canada rally after blowing an eight-run lead to beat the Germans 14-13.

"I was excited. I was shaking," the 13-year-old Reyes, and one of only 15 girls to ever play in the tournament, said about going to the plate before her big hit.

Canada, represented by the Hastings Community all-stars from Vancouver's east side, finishes the tournament with a 1-2 record. The team was already eliminated from contention heading into yesterday's game.

Chris Holba and Matt Zembraski went deep during an 11-run fifth that put the Germans, a team from Ramstein Air Force Base, ahead 13-10.

The German club, made up of children of U.S. soldiers or employees, had not scored in its two previous games and finished the tournament 0-3.

Canada rallied in the sixth when Anthony Cusati hit his second homer of the game, a two-run shot that got Canada within 13-12. After loading the bases, Reyes drove in the winning runs.

She finished with three hits and three RBIs.

Hastings won the national championship earlier this month by beating Ontario's Lasalle Turtle Club 9-2 in Val d'Or, Que., but simply advancing out of their district was an accomplishment.

The club has little money and far fewer players than many of its rivals, but overcame the odds to earn the trip to South Williamsport, Pa.

No Canadian team has ever won the tournament.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada teammates Nicholas Carusi, left, and Taz Burman celebrate in the sixth inning after they scored on teammate Katie Reyes' walk-off single against Ramstein AFB, Germany, during Little League World Series pool play. Canada won 14-13.

Sports in brief

BASEBALL The New York Mets traded reliever Billy Wagner to the Boston Red Sox yesterday. In return, the Mets got two players to be named from the AL wild-card leaders. Wagner ranks sixth all-time with 385 career saves. He joins a bullpen led by closer Jonathan Papelbon.

BASEBALL Aaron Boone is set to rejoin the Houston Astros Friday, about five months after undergoing open-heart surgery, and will be activated when rosters expand on Sept. 1. Boone has been playing in the minor leagues since Aug. 10, going 3-for-15 with one RBI in Double-A before moving to Triple-A where he was 0-for-4 in two games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hill hits 30th in Jays loss

MLB RESULT

Tampa Bay 7 Toronto 3

RAYS AT JAYS

BASEBALL Carlos Pena hit a pair of two-run homers and James Shields won for the second time in his past seven decisions as the Tampa Bay Rays defeated the Toronto Blue Jays 7-3 last night.

Both of Pena's home runs came against Toronto starter Brett Cecil. The Tampa Bay slugger leads the American League with 37 homers.

Toronto second baseman Aaron Hill hit his 30th home run of the season in the third inning and rookie Travis Snider hit his sixth homer before a crowd of 17,307 at the Rogers Centre.

Rookie left-hander Cecil (5-3) allowed six hits and six runs, five earned, in 3⅓ innings.

The Rays, the 2008 American League pennant winners who are in the hunt for the wild-card spot, have won the first two games of the three-game series.

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Metro Workology exclusive: Backstage Pass

In the coming weeks Metro's Workology section will be focusing on the part of the entertainment industry that you DON'T see. Backstage Pass will focus on the careers behind the camera and the curtain.

Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Creative problem-solving

Film producer discusses the industry's highs and lows

RAF BRUSILOW
For Metro Canada

For Anne Tait, the journey to producing the Iron Road was a long and winding one indeed.

In fact, it was nine years long; though the endlessly energetic Tait is no stranger to arduous challenges.

The Toronto-born casting director, writer, director, broadcaster and producer has already mastered many roles in a long career in the entertainment industry. She was a senior casting director at CBC TV for years on shows like Anne of Green Gables and Road to Avonlea and has cast actors like Peter O'Toole, Russell Crowe and Helena Bonham Carter for feature films. She has also written and produced her own hit play, Yeats in Love, which played in Dublin, Ireland, and throughout Ontario.

Now with the recent premiere of her film Iron Road, Tait has finally conquered the role of film producer as well.

The film, which screened as a two-part mini-series on CBC Aug. 9 and 16, represents a labour of love nine years in the making for Tait who wanted to shed light on the harrowing story of Chinese railroad workers in Canada in the late 1800s.

Iron Road was produced in tandem with mainland China and cost more than $12 million to create, with filming split between China and the mountains of British Columbia.

Producer Anne Tait and script co-writer Barry Pearson on a film set. Tait credits her Masters degree in English for helping her hone the necessary communication skills needed in film production.

Backstage Pass

Tait says her experience as a casting director definitely helped her ease into the role of producer.

"Every actor has an ego and you have to have a lot of tact to know what different approaches to use with different people. A producer has to have the financial savvy to raise money and the ability to understand the needs of creative people. You have to have a creative vision," Tait said.

> **"A producer has to have the financial savvy to raise money and the ability to understand the needs of creative people. You have to have a creative vision."**
> Anne Tait, producer

While Tait learned the ins and outs of casting directing on the job, she credits her Masters degree in English from the University of Toronto for helping her hone the communication skills necessary to successfully head up a film production.

Despite having succeeded as a film producer, Tait is not yet ready to give up casting directing.

"The thing that always interested me the most was choosing the actors. I love seeing wonderful actors get a role and seeing wonderful performances from someone unexpected," Tait said.

Tait feels like she deserves her break before jumping into her next likely project, a screenplay of her play Yeats in Love.

"Right now I'm feeling wonderful emotions — it makes up for an awful lot of lows. A producer is always solving problems and right now, for at least a week, I don't have a fire to put out or a problem to solve," she joked.

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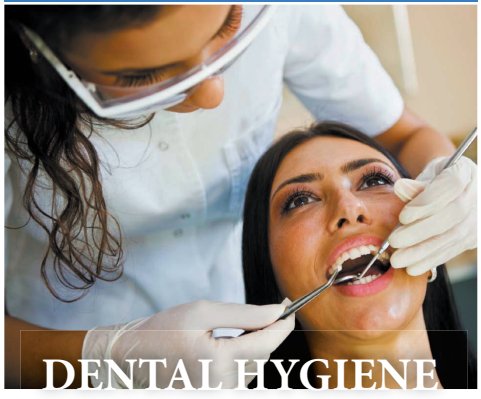

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Canada Games Stadium upgrades
The Canada Games Stadium at the University of New Brunswick's Saint John campus will undergo upgrades following a $3.6-million investment announced recently for the project. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Blunder dismissal and pay the price

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin
Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

In life, seldom do small mistakes have large consequences. In law, that is not always the case. This is the tale of one Ontario company that just learned this lesson the hard way.

Despite having just lost her job, Kelly Stowar must have been elated. As an administrative employee, Stowar was not entitled to more than a few weeks' severance. Instead, however, she was given a letter by her former employer, Telehop Communications, stating that she would be paid five months' salary. Stowar signed her name on the space provided, indicating she was satisfied with the contents of the letter, and left the Toronto area office to go home.

A few days after signing the letter, Stowar returned to Telehop's office to return some of the company's property that she still had. She was met by Telehop's human resources manager and called into a meeting. Stowar was told that the company had made a "mistake" and that she would only be receiving three weeks' termination pay, not the five months that she was initially offered. She was then asked to sign a release, indicating that she agreed with the revised offer. Stowar refused, claiming she had agreed to a deal for five months' pay just days earlier.

Since Telehop only paid Stowar three weeks' pay, the parties next met in court. The issue for the judge to decide was whether the letter that Stowar received and then signed amounted to an agreement and, if so, was Telehop bound by its terms.

> **"Upon dismissal, employees are typically given their statutory payments, which are set by provincial or federal legislation."**

Upon dismissal, employees are typically given their statutory payments, which are set by provincial or federal legislation. Most are then offered a greater amount in exchange for signing a release, which prevents them from bringing any further legal action. That offer is usually set out in the letter of termination and it forms a contract, once both sides have agreed to the terms.

Here, the court concluded that there was nothing to suggest that Telehop intended to offer any further compensation other than what was set out in the letter it provided to Stowar. By requiring her to sign that letter, the company had done nothing to suggest that she wouldn't have been paid in accordance with its terms. Stowar wasn't expected to know exactly what the legislation said about her termination and it was reasonable for her to presume that she was "entitled" to the five months' pay she was offered.

As a result, it did not matter that Telehop's generous offer was actually made in error. The court ruled that once Stowar signed the letter, there was a binding agreement compelling Telehop to pay her in accordance with its terms.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal; dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

Workology in brief

CRIME A new national organization that will advocate for Canadian victims of white-collar crime is set to rise from the ashes of thousands of small fortunes lost to fraudsters in recent years. The group will have its coming-out party next month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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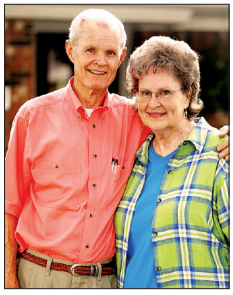
Polytechnics Canada spending initiatives
In a submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee, Polytechnics Canada recommends Ottawa invest $75 million over three years in a pan-Canadian network of centres for commercialization and technology transfer. METRO NEWS SERVICES


Home to Home handles all packing, moving and unpacking.

An easy transition from Home to Home

JON TATTRIE
For Metro Canada

For boomers and seniors, downsizing from a spacious family home to a condo or retirement community can seem an overwhelming task.

That's where Home to Home comes in; the Bedford-based business works hand-in-hand with clients to sift through belongings and provide turn-key moving services.

"They have all this furniture, all these collections from a lifetime, and they don't know where to start," says owner-operator Sheila Kidd. "I work with them to pick the pieces that they want to move and then plug in a few smaller pieces that will work in that (new) environment."

Home to Home takes care of all the packing, moving and unpacking, making the transition painless and possibly even pleasant.

With grand boomers leaving their empty nest, Kidd and her team do a floor plan of the new space and work out what the client wants to take with them. They then go shopping together to buy new pieces to update the style of the home. Home to Home works with the clients to sort through the remainder, sending some to family around the world, selling some in garage sales and giving the rest to charities.

Helping seniors move to independent or assisted-living situations can be even more stressful, Kidd says.

"They're maybe moving into 1,000-square feet from up to 5,000-square feet. This is a big challenge, with a whole emotional quagmire," she says, noting her nursing background with seniors is a big help.

Kidd is developing a website for the new and growing business and can be reached at 902-483-2593 or sheilakidd@accesscable.net.

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Nissan sees the light

Nissan is working on a project to study the development of a quick-charging system for electric vehicles (EV) using solar panels. The program is designed to maximize the use of renewable energy for EVs, provide power during electricity outages, and reduce demand on grid power. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Pet's best rides

U.S. pet safety organization Bark Buckle UP has named the top ten pet-friendly vehicles currently available. They are, in alphabetical order: Ford Flex, GMC Acadia, Hyundai Tucson, Jeep Liberty, Kia Borrego, Mazda5, Mitsubishi Outlander, Subaru Tribeca and Volvo XC70. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

If you're looking for an affordable rear-drive sport compact with a back seat, the Hyundai Genesis Coupe is one of your few options.

Genesis Coupe a real looker

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

During a recent summertime hot-spell, I visited a local creamery for a giant ice-cream cone. While my artery-clogging snack was being prepared, I didn't notice the crowd gathering in the parking lot around the electric blue 2010 Hyundai Genesis Coupe 2.0T I drove there.

Turns out this was the wrong car to try and eat an ice cream beside. The dozen or so folks standing around had plenty of questions — and my treat turned into a drippy mess before I could answer them all.

If you want the scoop on the Genesis Coupe, please read this FAQ. That way, other Genesis drivers can enjoy their summertime ice-cream in peace.

Ever sexy. Is that really a Hyundai?

It is indeed! In fact, it's probably the sexiest car Korea's ever built. It's a real looker — very wide, low, menacing, and detailed, with a fantastic stance.

You can get a V8 in this, right?

No, that's the Genesis Sedan. The four-door comes with a 280 horsepower V6 or a 375 horsepower V8. Both are automatic.

The Coupe gets a 2.0 litre four cylinder "world" engine with a turbocharger, good for 210 horsepower. There's a 3.8 litre V6 with 306 horsepower available. Both can be had in automatic or six-speed manual.

How's it go?

Not bad at all. The turbo four cylinder is a decent entry-level engine, though it's far from a head-pinning drag racer. Just don't go picking on your buddy with the Mustang GT.

The four cylinder unit is very responsive coming out of a light, and the turbo works nicely to increase responsiveness when cruising at a good highway clip too. Unfortunately, the engine is no pinnacle of refinement.

The Hyundai Genesis Coupe's interior is nice to look at, driver-centric without being crowded, and roomy.

Is that rear-wheel drive?

Yes! If you're looking for an affordable rear-drive sport compact with a back seat, it's one of your few options.

Rear-drive is a novelty in this market as much as it's a very real criteria for some shoppers. It has benefits in handling and performance potential.

What's the interior like?

Hyundai's created a genuine coupe cockpit in here. It's nice to look at, driver-centric without being crowded, and surprisingly roomy. The wide body means plenty of knee and shoulder room, and the back seats can actually be used by human beings.

What about the handling?

A nice balance between sportiness and comfort, though not quite an ultra-precise asphalt scalpel. The Genesis rides commendably and delivers the feel of balance and sharpness that attracts enthusiasts to rear-drive cars.

Do you like it?

Yes! But it's not perfect. The trunk opening is small, the rearward visibility is somewhat limited, and the turning circle is pretty clumsy. Also, the engine sound starts to invade the cabin at higher speeds.

OMG, I like, totally want one. How much?

With the four-cylinder, pricing starts at $24,495.

2010 Hyundai Genesis Coupe

Type: Two-door sport coupe
Price: from $24,995
Engine: 2.0L four cylinder/3.8L V6
HP: 210/306

Highlights

- Sexy looks
- Affordable
- Rear drive

The PT Cruiser has been a hit with consumers since its introduction in 2000.

Chrysler to keep on PT Cruisin'

PRODUCTION Chrysler Group LLC announced recently that production of the Chrysler PT Cruiser will continue. The Chrysler Group Toluca (Mexico) Assembly Plant — the exclusive home of the Cruiser — will continue to build the quality-proven, versatility packaged and "too cool to categorize" small car.

"The heritage-styled Chrysler PT Cruiser continues to be a global success story," said Peter Fong of Chrysler. "With more than 1.3 million PT Cruisers sold in more than 60 countries since 2000, we're excited to announce we're re-energizing the iconic and award-winning PT Cruiser."

Chrysler introduced the segment-busting Chrysler PT Cruiser nearly 10 years ago. Its one-of-a-kind exterior styling and Swiss Army knife-like interior flexibility, offered at a compact car price, redefined the small-car segment and became an instant hit with consumers.

The latest flavour, the 2009 Chrysler PT Dream Cruiser 5 marked the 14th customized version of the segment-busting small car.

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Matiz Creative unleashed

GM Daewoo has launched its all-new global minicar, the Matiz Creative, which will be sold in over 150 markets worldwide including North America. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mazda unveiling cleaner CX-7

The Mazda stand at next month's Frankfurt International Motor Show (IAA) will exhibit the new Mazda CX-7 featuring Mazda's new family face as seen on Mazda6 and Mazda3.

Also offering a bolder stance, the new Mazda CX-7 is powered by a high-output diesel engine.

The CX-7 debuts as the first Japanese passenger car to have a diesel engine fitted with a Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) system, which cuts NOx emissions by 40 per cent.

Mazda will debut a new CX-7, featuring a diesel engine, at the Frankfurt auto show.

This technology will be offered exclusively to European customers in the new diesel version of the new Mazda CX-7 sports crossover SUV.

Thanks to the compact design of the SCR system, the CX-7 Diesel offers users the same 455 litres of luggage space as the previous gasoline engine version, and it is user-friendly.

Joining the clean-running new Mazda CX-7 diesel in Frankfurt will be a host of other environmental technologies, including Mazda's fuel-saving i-stop system, and rotary hydrogen powertrain technology.

FROM CARGUIDE

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* Limited time lease offers based on new 2009 Honda models. Lease examples based on new 2009 Accord LX Sedan, model F41SE5KX / 2009 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1SE5KX / 2009 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3SE5K available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. 0.9% / 1.9% / 2.9% lease APR for 48 / 48 / 48 months. Monthly payments are $298 / $178 / $298 respectively. Bi-weekly payments are $137 / $82 / $137 respectively. Total lease obligation is $14,304 / $8,544 / $14,304 respectively. Security deposit is $3,438 / $2,787 / $4,345 respectively. Plus $1,000 / $1,500 / $1,500 August Bonus Dollars applied to new 2009 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2009 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1SE5KX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. MSRP is $16,990 plus $1,295 freight and PDI. Financed at 0.9% APR equals $131.48 per month for 60 months. Cost of borrowing is $4,213.65 for a total obligation of $18,308.65. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. Limited time financing offer based on new 2009 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2009 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1SE5KX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. MSRP is $16,990 plus $1,295 freight and PDI. Financed at 1.9% APR equals $178 per month for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $2,787 for a total obligation of $19,777. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. Limited time financing offer based on new 2009 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2009 Accord LX Sedan, model F41SE5KX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. MSRP is $16,990 plus $1,295 freight and PDI. Financed at 2.9% APR equals $298 per month for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $4,345 for a total obligation of $20,635. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. Limited time financing offer based on new 2009 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2009 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3SE5K available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. MSRP is $16,990 plus $1,295 freight and PDI. Financed at 2.9% APR equals $298 per month for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $4,345 for a total obligation of $20,635. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. Limited time financing offer applies only to retail customer purchase. Lease or finance agreements for select new 2009 Accord and CR-V models concluded, respectively, between August 14, 2009 and August 31st, 2009. August Bonus Dollars offer includes GST, PST, HST, GST where applicable. Valid only on purchase, lease or finance agreements concluded at participating Honda retailers. ¹ 0.7% Offers valid from August 14, 2009 through August 31st, 2009 at participating Honda retailers. Offer may vary by province. Offer may not be combined with other offers. ² Based on Canadian manufacturers' suggested retail prices. Visit www.gm.ca for more information.

The all-new Jaguar XJ breaks free of the marque's old-world charm with a modernist design.

Brave new designs

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

When it comes to automotive design, are you a modernist or a folk singer?

(How many folk singers does it take to screw in a light bulb? Four. One to screw in the light bulb. Three to sing about how much better was the old light bulb.)

Like most people, you're probably a bit of both. So designers are constantly trying to walk that line between imagining a fresh look, but one that also embodies traditions that everybody loves and expects.

The automaker that had the hardest time walking this line of late has been Jaguar. Until quite recently, its designs didn't stray much from those first envisioned by its founder, William Lyons.

Now take a look at the just-revealed all-new XJ sedan. I'm not sure most people would instantly recognize this new XJ sedan as a "Jaguar."

But Jaguar had to make this move. It could no longer afford to be only curators of old-world charm.

I think the best scenario for redesigning a nameplate: You notice a car parked car in the distance — something new and exciting. You don't know what it is, but you like it. As you get closer, say 10 paces, you wonder if it could be the new "Wasfinger?" When you get right up to it, and before you see any badges, you know for sure it's the new Wasfinger. You really liked the old Wasfinger, but this one's even better.

You can definitely say Cadillac has been successful in reinventing itself in an all-new, modern idiom. The rear section of the CTS, for example, with its vertical tail lamps and creased fender line, is all at once good looking, modern, and reminiscent of Cadillac tail fins of the 1950s.

I also like Lincoln's new design direction. It's distinctive and substantial and very American, and not too overpowering with heritage cues. You have to use cues sparingly, like perfume.

I think that was the problem with Pontiac design — too much reliance on cues, like red interior lights, body cladding, and that split front grille, and not much else. Whew!

Finally, I think it doesn't matter how much retro you pile into a car design, as long as the bones are good. All good auto design seems to be characterized by only a few crucial elements: proportion; form following function; an aerodynamic look, and wheels that are pushed to the corners of the body and that fill up the wheel arches.

On the latter point, I once asked hot-rod legend, Chip Foose, if there was anything that didn't look better with bigger wheels and a slightly lowered body.

He thought for a few seconds, then said, "I dunno, maybe a house."

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Smart EV coming
An electric version of the Smart fortwo will roll off the assembly lines by mid-November, Daimler announced recently. However, the car will only be available to the average buyer in 2012. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Humble's hot wheels

I love BMWs," exclaims Howard Glassman, a.k.a. Humble Howard, co-host of Toronto's EZ Rock morning show. "I have a man crush on them."

In fact, the beloved radio personality has owned several BMWs over the years — all 325i's — so he's in auto heaven now that he's finally moved up to the 5 series.

"It's like the grown-up BMW," he says.

Glassman bought his 2006 black 525i BMW five months ago second-hand. "It's in mint condition and it makes me look super-hot," says the perennial funny-guy.

He pauses, then adds: "If you knew me, you'd know how stupid that last remark was because nothing can make me look super-hot.

"It's just so comfortable and it's fast," adds the father of two, who admits to accumulating his fair share of speeding tickets over the years.

"Because I go to work at four in the morning, I get almost all my speeding tickets then because you feel all alone on the road and you go fast. Next thing I know, I'm pulled over and I'm thinking 'what did I do?'"

Although he tries to keep his speed under control on the road, where Glassman really indulges his need for speed is in the air. "I also fly airplanes — twin and single-engine planes — so I kind of get my speed kicks that way," he says.

A native of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, who started out as a stand-up comic before hitting the radio as co-host of the popular Humble & Fred morning drive show, which thousands of Torontonians tuned into each day for nearly 20 years, Glassman recalls with fondness the first car he bought when he was 16: a used Austin Mini.

"I bought the car in the middle of the winter for $900," he recounts.

"And I had it parked outside our home. The first big snowstorm we had, I looked out and I couldn't see my car. It was almost buried, it was so tiny."

Now that his oldest daughter is 15, Glassman knows she'll want to get behind the wheel of his beloved Bimmer.

"But I made her understand that it'll be years before she'll drive this car," he says like devoted the BMW-lover that he is.

"I love BMWs. I have a man crush on them. (My BMW 525i) is in mint condition and it makes me look super-hot. If you knew me, you'd know how stupid that last remark was because nothing can make me look super-hot."
Howard Glassman

A 2006 BMW 525i. Howard Glassman rides a similar model.

Radio personality Humble Howard Glassman.

Heather Buchan is a Toronto-based journalist who has worked at several magazines, including Hello! Canada, where she cut her teeth in the world of celebrities.

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Climate system that's forest fresh

Trust a Japanese automaker to come up with a high-tech alternative to the $1.99 pine-tree air freshener, the staple ornament of the rear-view mirror.

Nissan is touting what it calls "Forest AC," a brainy air-conditioning and heating system that controls all aspects of the cabin environment, from temperature and humidity to aroma, even germs.

"The system is designed to create the refreshing climate, fragrance and natural breezes of relaxing forest settings," Nissan says in its news release.

The technology is based on research by the Tokyo University of Science into the effects of aroma on human mental activity. Nissan says it's the first automotive system to foster driver comfort this way.

Too bad, then, that Canadian and American drivers won't get to find out if Forest AC improves on the old pine tree or those little flasks of scented oil you can clip to your air vent.

The full system is being offered on the Japanese-market Nissan Fuga sports sedan, which arrives here next spring badged as the Infiniti M for the company's upscale brand, but without Forest AC's aromatherapy gizmo.

Humidity control
- Forest AC maintains humidity between 35 and 55 per cent while keeping windows clear, and it's precise enough to compensate for the differing sunlight levels from one side of the car to the other.

"We have chosen not to take it for the North American market," says Sean McNamara, Infiniti's senior product-planning manager at Nissan North America in Nashville, Tenn.

"We did some customer feedback here and there wasn't a lot of interest in it, not to the degree there was in the Japanese market."

So what are we missing?

According to Nissan, the Japanese-market system will be equipped with replaceable cartridges that alternately emit borneol, a compound of Kapur wood, lavender and other essential oils, and leaf alcohol.

Borneol, says Nissan, promotes calm and focus while leaf alcohol, found in most plants, is thought to have a calming effect and reduces fatigue.

While the feel-good wizardry is missing, McNamara says the Infiniti M will have Forest AC's other high-tech features to improve overall air quality in the passenger cabin.

It includes an active filtration system that takes noxious or unpleasant fumes out of the incoming air using a high-performance filter impregnated with "natural grapeseed polyphenol."

Nissan says it is better than other car filters at removing pollen and deactivating allergens.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Interior of the upcoming Infiniti M sports sedan, the first to feature Nissan's high-tech Forest AC climate-control system.

A SAI from Toyota

Toyota will introduce a new midsize hybrid sedan, the SAI, in Japan this year, according to a report by the Green Car Congress. The car is expected to have the same basic structure as the new Lexus HS 250h. **CANADIANDRIVER.COM**

Built in Canada, the 2009 Acura MDX (Elite Package shown) debuted in 2001 and has constantly been refined, keeping it a hot seller in the mid-size luxury SUV/CUV segment.

Canadian luxury

Acura's Ontario plant delivers one hot MDX

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

Acura's MDX mid-size luxury crossover (CUV) is part of a Canadian success story.

It is one of three Acura vehicles (CSX and ZDX) being constructed in Alliston, Ont., where the Honda Civic sedan is also built.

It's been a win-win for everyone involved and that includes the federal and provincial governments who never had to worry about shelling out money to Honda.

Introduced in 2001, the MDX (which stands for Multi Dimensional luxury) was the first mid-size CUV to come with a third row seat. Designed to do battle with the Lexus RX300/330, the MDX now faces a host of competitors in its segment.

The 2009 version is equipped with a 3.7-litre V6 producing 300 hp and 275 lb/ft of torque using Honda's VTEC variable valve timing system for a fuel consumption rating of 13.8L/100 km city and 10.0L/100 km highway on premium.

The only transmission available is a five-speed automatic with sequential SportShift mode that allows "manual" selection of the gears.

All MDX models are fitted as standard with a heavy-duty version of the automatic transmission and heavy-duty radiator with dual fans. That enables the MDX to tow up to 5,000 lb.

Cargo volume with the second (50/50 split) and third row (60/40 split) seats folded is 2,364 litres.

The integrated ABS and Vehicle Stability Assist (Acura's term for electronic stability control) also features Trailer Stability Assist that senses when the trailer is starting to wander and gets both it and car back on an even keel.

The MDX also comes standard with the Honda-developed SH-AWD (Super Handling All-Wheel-Drive) system that not only sends up to 50 per cent of torque to the rear wheels under acceleration but can route more torque to the wheel on the outside of a curve. At the same time, the system allows the outside wheel to turn a hair faster than the inside tire for a feeling of neutral steer.

All of this is visible on the Multi Information Display set between the speedo and tach. As the torque moves around it is shown by a series of gradients at each wheel in real time. So even though you probably won't feel it, you can see the system at work, and believe me, it's fascinating to watch.

There are three MDX trim levels starting with the base car, the Technology Package and the Elite Package as tested here at $62,500.

Only the Elite gets self-levelling headlights or a nine-inch DVD entertainment system for those in the back seats with remote and wireless headsets with surround sound.

There are front and side airbags as well as a three-row curtain airbag fitted on all models and this integrates a rollover sensor.

The navigation system on the Elite and Technology Packages features bilingual voice recognition and has a backup camera view displayed on the monitor.

It has a very solid feeling on the road with a surprising amount of "feel" coming through the steering wheel rim to the hands. The brakes feel "big" to the point of being almost grabby at slow speeds.

2009 Acura MDX Elite

Type: Midsize luxury CUV
Price: $62,500
Engine: 3.7-litre SOHC V6 (300 hp, 275 lb/ft)
Fuel Economy: 13.8L/100 km city, 10.0L/100 km highway

Highlights

- Loaded with technology and latest gadgetry
- Solid on the road
- Made in Canada

The interior of the 2009 Acura MDX Elite Package is a sumptuous mix of leathers and wood and metal accents. The main gauges feature light emitted diode backlighting.

Clunker incentives

Hyundai, Chrysler do 'responsible' thing

MICHAEL GOETZ
for Metro Canada

Every day it gets harder to drive a clunker. At one time you just had to deal with the shame. Then you had to ignore the incentives offered through various government "scrappage" initiatives, like the current Retire Your Ride program. Now the automakers are throwing money at you.

Last week, Hyundai announced its Clean Air Commitment program, which promises $500 or $1,000 in cash (depending on which Hyundai you buy), if you trade in your clunker and consent to having it retired for good.

Three days later, Chrysler announced a similar program. It also raised the stakes; its minimum incentive is also $500, but its top one is worth $1,500. Chrysler also becomes the first "official" automotive partner of Retire Your Ride. (Hyundai is not on board yet, but promises to take your clunker to a participating recycler.)

> **"With last week's announcement, we've seen more interest in the (Retire Your Ride) program."**
> Fatima Dharsee of Clear Air Foundation

Both the Hyundai and Chrysler money is on top of any incentive money they're already offering, and on top on any money already on the table through Retire Your Ride.

Incentive options on Retire Your Ride range from $300 in cash, to coupons that can be redeemed for transit passes, bicycles, car-share fees, etc.

Whatever which way you go, you'll need a suitable clunker to turn in — a 1995 or older model.

Retire Your Ride hopes to get 50,000 of them off the road this year. Fatima Dharsee, executive director of the Clean Air Foundation, which administers Retire Your Ride, said the tally to date is around 13,000.

"On average we were scrapping over 100 cars every day, which is right on target. But with last week's announcements (from the automakers) we've seen even more interest in the program. We're getting well over 200 cars a day now."

Hyundai was hoping that its Clean Air Commitment program, would not be viewed as just more incentives, in a market full of incentives.

"We're looking at this more as a CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Initiative," said Stephen Kelleher, president and CEO, Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. "We're not making a lot of money of these deals. ... We thought this was a good platform for giving something back."

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*Limited time finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. License, registration, PPSA, insurance, applicable fees and taxes are extra. MSRP of a new 2010 Corolla (Model BU42EMA), 2010 Matrix (Model KU4EEMA), and 2009 RAV4 (Model ZE33VPA) is $15,260/$16,440/$24,295 plus freight and PDE of $1,320/$1,320/$1,490. Tax for fuel conservation is $75 for Matrix. 0%/0%/0% finance APR equals $424/$457/$675 per month for 36/36/36 months. Cost of borrowing is $0/$0/$0 for a total obligation of $15,260/$16,440/$24,295. Offers valid between August 1, 2009 and August 31, 2009 and are subject to change without notice. **On select models during August 24, 2009 - August 29, 2009 only. >> Reader's Digest rating based upon a Reader's Digest Harris Decima January 2009 consumer survey of 1500 Canadians. See dealer for details.

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Driverless pod taxi

The future of public transport? Urban Light Transport (ULTra), a driverless pod car that carries four passengers is being tested for use at Heathrow Terminal 5. Visit atsltd.co.uk for more information. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

Toyota recently found that its fuel cell vehicle is getting an estimated range of 431 miles on one tank of compressed hydrogen.

Pushing green miles

Toyota fuel cell cars go 693 km on one tank of hydrogen

Toyota has announced the results of a recent collaborative fuel cell hybrid vehicle range and fuel economy field evaluation.

The Toyota Highlander Fuel Cell Hybrid Vehicle Advanced (FCHV-adv) achieved an estimated range of 693 kilometres on a single full tank of compressed hydrogen gas, and an average fuel economy of 109 km/kg (approximate mpg equivalent) during a daylong trip down the southern California coast.

In mid-2008, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), approached Toyota to participate in a collaborative evaluation of the real world driving range of the FCHV-adv.

On Tuesday, June 30, two fuel cell vehicles, two Toyota Technical Center engineers, an SRNL engineer and a NREL engineer completed a 532 km extended round trip drive between Torrance, California and San Diego.

Driving range data from each vehicle was calculated by SRNL and NREL engineers. The results were averaged for an estimated range of 693 miles, with an average fuel economy of 109 miles/kg.

For comparison, the 2009 Toyota Highland Hybrid achieves an EPA-estimated rating of 11 km/L combined fuel economy and has a full-tank range of approximately 724 km.

With premium grade gasoline currently priced at about $3.25 US, the gasoline-powered V6 Highlander hybrid is estimated to travel approximately 41 miles at a cost of about $3.25.

Currently, hydrogen gas pricing is not fixed, but DOE targets future pricing at $2 to $3 per kilogram. Therefore, the FCHV-adv is estimated to travel approximately 109 miles at a projected cost of about $2.50 — more than double the range of the Highlander Hybrid, at equal or lesser cost, while producing zero emissions. **FROM CARGUIDE**

Safety nod for 2010 Kia Soul

RATING Having been on the market for less than a year, the 2010 Kia Soul already has won numerous accolades. Kia's affordable halo car now adds a 2009 "Top Safety Pick" from the U.S. Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) to its youthful resume, selected as one of only 10 small vehicles to earn the organization's top honour for earning "Good" ratings — the highest achievable — in frontal, side and rear impact crash safety tests. Ratings from the Institute are based on results from frontal, side and rear impact crash tests. All vehicles must have electronic stability control available to be eligible.

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Food on the fly

Travellers with food restrictions can run into problems when they have to explain their dietary needs in a foreign language. Online service njoy-translations.com has an array of diet-related translation tools, providing phrases for food allergies, special diets and more in 55 languages. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Month of beer festivals

This September, Colorado will host not one but three beer-related festivals. There's the 16th annual Telluride Blues & Brews Festival, tellurideblues.com, from Sept. 18-20; the Denver Beer Fest, denver.org/denverbeerfest, from Sept. 18-27; and the Great American Beer Festival, greatamericanbeerfestival.com, also held in Denver, from Sept. 24-26. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Sampling the perks of paradise

Coffee lovers can go right to the source on Hawaii's Big Island

BY DAWNA L. ROBERTSON
for Metro Canada

Anyone who has ever visited Hawaii's Big Island knows its beauty is cut from a different cloth. What would you expect from a 4,028-square-mile gem that's home to 11 climate zones?

From black sand beaches to snow-capped mountaintops, Hawaii's biggest playground literally surprises at every turn.

While this tropical retreat is never short on recreational diversions, the cultural scene becomes even more robust each November thanks to Hawaii's longest running agricultural festival, which continues to stir up quite a buzz on the typically laid-back island.

Through the years, the award-winning Kona Coffee Cultural Festival, konacoffeefest.com, has garnered recognition as the pioneer food festival in Hawaii. Slated for Nov. 6 to 15, the 39th edition will celebrate with a Kona Coffee — Aroma of Aloha theme, paying homage to pioneers, farmers, artisans and the product itself.

Nearly 50 festival events will include coffee-based competitions, tastings, parades, farm tours, workshops, art exhibits and an outdoor concert.

Heading to Kona a few days prior to last year's festival launch, I opted to perk up a low-key day by touring Kona Coffee Country. Driving maps are available from hotel concierges, local businesses or by contacting info@konacoffeefest.com.

The comprehensive piece includes information on coffee history, industry standards and cultivation practices. For direction ease, it opens to a map pinpointing locations of Kona Coffee farms and retail sites that welcome guests.

American missionary Samuel Ruggles introduced coffee to the island in 1828, transporting cuttings of Arabica trees from Oahu to Kona. The area was a natural, thanks to its rich volcanic soil, ample rainfall, natural cloud cover and hard-working family farmers.

Picking up steam among connoisseurs, Kona Coffee consists exclusively of beans grown on the western slopes of Hualalai and Mauna Loa in a strip extending south from the village of Holualoa to the town of Honaunau. This delicacy is distinguished for having a full, rich flavor with balanced acidity, great aroma and long finish lacking bitterness. More than 670 farms create a tapestry amid the 35-kilometre-long, three-kilometre-wide coffee-rich corridor. So with this Java 101 under my belt and map in hand, I hit the road.

First stop was Greenwell Farms, greenwellfarms.com, in Kealakekua, one of the industry's oldest and most storied producers. The Greenwell legacy began in 1850 when Henry Nicholas Greenwell left England for the fertile soil of rural Kona. For the next 40 years, he and his wife farmed, ranched and perfected their product.

Today, the spread lies adjacent to the Greenwell's ancestral home, now occupied by the Kona Historical Society's Kona Coffee Living History Farm, konahistorical.org. Managed by family descendants, Greenwell Farms works 150 acres of the most productive land in the Kona District. As with many larger producers, it purchases additional coffee cherry from selected farms within the region. My tour guide, Kapua, described how the transformation from cherries into a full-bodied, aromatic brew begins with hand-planted seedlings. "They blossom into Kona Snow flowers, which produce bright red cherries that generally contain two coffee beans," Kapua explained.

Read more on page 34 »

KIRK LEE AEDER/HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY

Visitors stroll through a coffee plantation on the Big Island's Kona Coast. The annual Kona Coffee Cultural Festival will take place Nov. 6 to 15.

ALVIS UPITIS/RISER

Coffee beans dry in the sun on Hawaii's Kona Coast.

Good to know

- For information on transportation, accommodations and additional activities, visit bigisland.org and kohalacoastresorts.com.
- For details on the Kona Coffee Cultural Festival, visit konacoffeefest.com or email info@konacoffeefest.com.
- For hotel packages, contact Keauhou Beach Resort, 877-532-8468; King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel, konabeachhotel.com; Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa, sheratonkeauhou.com; and Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort, outriggerkeauhoubeach.com

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Fair play

One of the 10 largest fairs in North America, The Big E, takes place Sept. 18-Oct. 4, in West Springfield, Mass. There'll be free concerts, acrobats, a horse show, a circus, daily Mardi Gras parades and the fair's iconic Big E cream puffs — 50,000 of them will be prepared on site; see thebige.com. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACQUES BRINON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Patrons eat at the Hotel du Nord, along the Canal Saint Martin in Paris. Away from landmarks, tourist crowds and flashing cameras, a few unusual guides will take you on ecelectic tours to discover artists' havens in Belleville, fountains of famous gardens and eco-friendly initiatives.

Discovering the more eclectic side of Paris

Out-of-the-way tours take you to little-known parts of town

You've posed for a picture in front of the Eiffel Tower, checked out the Mona Lisa at the Louvre and walked to the top of the Arc de Triomphe. If you think you've done it all in Paris, don't worry, there are plenty of off-the-beaten-path adventures for your return.

Away from landmarks, tourist crowds and flashing cameras, a few guides will take you on unusual tours behind the scenes, literally, in a movie tour, or to discover artists' havens in Belleville, fountains of famous gardens and eco-friendly initiatives around town. Alongside curious locals, you'll get a glimpse of a different Paris.

Meet artists and residents

Just a few metro stops away from the city's major monuments lies an overlooked neighbourhood that's worth the detour, especially in the company of Angenic Agnero, who runs the non-profit organization Paris par Rues Meconnues (Paris Along Unknown Streets).

Agnero has been walking the streets of the neighbourhood for 10 years interviewing its residents. She now holds the keys — or rather the door codes — to many buildings, allowing visitors to discover a hidden side of the area.

Walking up narrow streets, Agnero reveals flowery inner courtyards concealing old sculptures, where artist installations and murals have been added. Once the door closes, it's easy to imagine you're miles away from Paris, in the quiet countryside.

Although unknown by many, Belleville has had its share of fame. Edith Piaf reportedly started her career here singing in the streets. Olivier Dahan's 2007 film La Vie en Rose with French actress Marion Cotillard tells the story of the poor girl who became the country's biggest star.

Working-class Belleville is now home to many of Paris' ceramists, mosaic artists and various artisans. Instead of lecturing on the area's long history, Agnero introduces you to her friends and shares stories. **More details:** The tour costs $17 US and is offered several times weekly; see paris-prm.com.

Water tour

A knowledgeable guide takes small groups on a walk through a chosen neighbourhood focusing on water. Although not obvious at first, the water theme is present everywhere around the Jardin des Tuileries, designed by Andre Le Notre, a landscape architect, in the 17th century.

Read more on page 29 »

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REMY DE LA MAUVINIERE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Left, a man walks in the rue de Menilmontant in the Belleville district of Paris. Right, the Fontaine des Innocents

>> Continued from page 28

Here, artists made rivers come to life through sculptures. The Loire and the Loiret Rivers become a man and a woman.

"Water has always been a problem," said guide Hugues Meles, explaining that although the Seine river provided plenty of water, it was also used as a sewer and unsafe to drink.

Outside the garden's walls, as if laid out on a map, eight statues represent the largest harbour cities in France. Marseille is a woman with grape headgear sitting on a boat, holding an olive tree branch, a symbol of peace and the Mediterranean.

You'll learn that the popular Wallace fountains used by Parisians to quench their thirst on hot days were named for an English philanthropist who was shocked to find out one had to pay for a glass of water in Paris. He built fountains around the city to provide free water to all.

More details: The tour costs $7 US and is offered several times per week. Each tour departs from a different area; see pavillondeleau.fr.

Eco-visit

If you can spring for it, let Erwann Maizy take you on an air-conditioned visit of the city of lights in his stylish Prius, recognizable by the colourful print of a gingko biloba tree, the world's oldest tree.

In the comfort of a hybrid car that zooms silently through the busy intersections, the nature enthusiast points out air sensors that help AIRPARIF, an air monitoring system, measure the quality of the air Parisians breathe daily.

Maizy explains that Le Notre designed the Champs Elysees in 1670 to allow for the sun to set at the end of it. Today, the Arc de Triomphe becomes a frame for the sunsets twice a year — around May 8 and Aug. 1.

On the avenue where crowds gather to see the end of the Tour de France, Maizy also points out the world's first LED-lit building now owned by French newspaper France-Soir.

With 100,000 trees lining the boulevards, Paris has become the most wooded European city, according to Maizy. As he drives slowly though the streets to recharge his car battery, he talks about the vertical garden at the Musee du Quai Branly and 50 other gardens most people don't know about.

More details: The tour costs $113 and is offered daily, starting at Place de la Concorde; see ecovisitparis.com.

Movie tour

Led by movie buff and actor Lula Suassuna, you'll learn that one out of two French movies is filmed in or around Paris these days. Suassuna points out quotes on the walls of the movie theatre, famous lines from movies like "You talkin' to me?" from Robert DeNiro in Taxi Driver. First reading the lines, he then acts out parts of the scenes, setting the mood for the tour.

Travelling by boat to the outskirts of the city, the small group listens to the driver and his assistant talk about the construction of the Canal Saint Martin and Canal de l'Ourcq in 1808 by Napoleon. On the edges of the canal, people bicycle and walk quietly.

Going past bridges, with the help of Suassuna, you recognize one on which the sweet title character from Amélie spent afternoons skipping stones on the water.

Before you embark on this French cinema stroll, you'll probably want to see a few movies so you know what Suassuna is talking about, including Dobermann, Amélie, Hotel du Nord, Delicatessen, Le Peril Jeune and 99 Francs. Non-French speakers beware: although the guide speaks English and Portuguese, the tour is usually offered only in French.

More details: The tour costs $12.75 and is offered on Sundays. The group meets in front of the MK2 movie theatre on the Quai de Seine side of the canal; see tourisme93.com.

2CV driving tour

With the popular French Citroen 2CV car as your means of transportation, the tour, called 4 roues sous 1 parapluie (which means "four wheels under one umbrella"), takes visitors on a tour of the capital. The quirky tour comes complete with a beret-wearing driver. The tour starts at $30; see 4roues-sous-1parapluie.com

Private Paris

If money is no object, Paris Prive opens the most coveted doors. See the Eiffel Tower and Versailles after hours, get a whiff of custom-made perfumes in the city's most well-known luxury boutiques, or master French cuisine thanks to the help of a starred chef. Tours start at $565; see parisprive.com.

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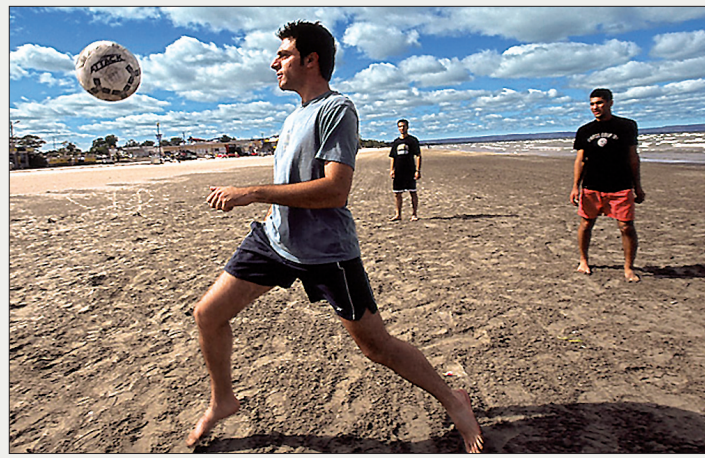

T. CAMPBELL/IMAGEONTARIO.COM

Playing ball at Wasaga Beach, one of the Ontario beaches awarded Blue Flag status.

Blue Flag beaches

You may feel like jumping in, but are you sure the water's fine? Enter the international Blue Flag beach certification program, a scheme of European origin that's meant to assure beach-goers that a particular stretch of sand meets minimum requirements when it comes to water quality, environmental management, safety, services and environmental education.

- The Blue Flag program has been running in Canada for several years now. This summer, three marinas are certified (the first marinas in all of North America), 11 beaches are flying Blue Flags and seven more beaches are on the path to getting certified.
- While Blue Flags were temporarily down at Toronto beaches during this summer's municipal labour disruption, they are flying once again. Toronto's Blue Flag beaches are: Kew-Balmy, Woodbine, Cherry, Ward's Island, Centre Island, Gibralter Point, and Hanlan's Point. Results from daily water quality testing indicate that the Blue Flag beaches are consistently good for swimming.
- To learn more about the program in Canada, visit blueflag.ca. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Fall festivals in Atlanta

If you're heading to Atlanta this fall, keep an eye out for two festivals: The Arts Festival, atlantaartsfestival.com, takes place Sept. 12-13 and features 200 artists; and from Oct. 10-11, the city hosts the annual Taste of Atlanta, tasteofatlanta.com. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A weekend's worth of wings

National Buffalo Wing fest set for Labour Day

If you're looking for the place where buffalo wings started, you'll naturally want to head to Buffalo, N.Y.

And if you want to join thousands of other wing fans in celebration of the deep-fried, saucy favourite, plan your trip for Labour Day weekend, when the city hosts the National Buffalo Wing Festival, this year on Sept. 5-6.

Last year's wing fest drew over 78,000 people for events that include professional eating contests and sauce competitions. Wings are offered in an endless variety of flavours with sauces ranging from mild to suicidal, and there's even an event in which contestants bob for wings in a pool of blue cheese.

Bottles of Frank's RedHot, billed as the Official Wing Sauce of the National Buffalo Wing Festival, will be given away from a booth at the festival. The company's celebrity chef and spokesman, Kevin Roberts, will be appearing in a celebrity chef challenge with the festival founder, Drew Cerza. Roberts will also take part in cooking demonstrations featuring RedHot recipes.

Buffalo's Anchor Bar and its founders, Frank and Teressa Bellissimo, created Buffalo wings in 1964. Since then, wings have gone from a tavern snack to a mainstream restaurant menu item, with entire food chains built around their sale.

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This file photo shows contestants in an eating contest held at the annual National Buffalo Wing Festival, which takes place on Labour Day weekend in Buffalo, N.Y.

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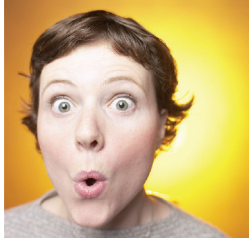

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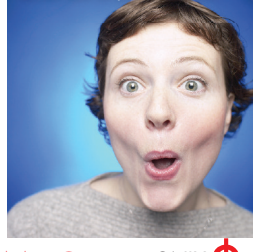

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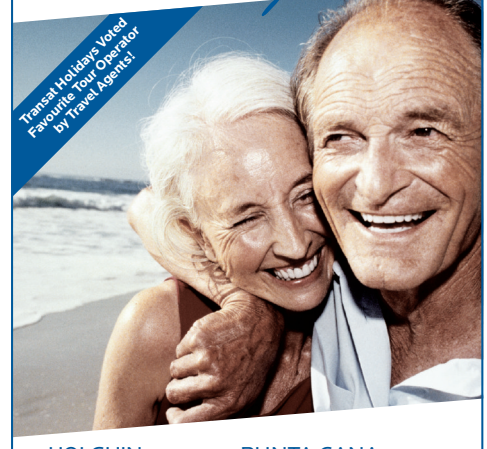

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National Parks documentary

Fans of documentary maker Ken Burns will want to keep an eye out for his new six-episode series, The National Parks: America's Best Idea, which will begin airing on PBS stations starting Sept. 27. For more details, see pbs.org/nationalparks. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Tutankhamun Canopic Coffinette (detail). gold, carnelian and coloured glass, (H)39 cm. New Kingdom, Dynasty 18. Photograph © Sandro Vannini

Ontario

Get the goods on gay-friendly travel

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

Gay and lesbian holidaymakers are usually on the same basic mission as their straight friends: We all want to let our hair down by doing something we enjoy on our time off from work.

Some of us are looking for a hedonistic week of non-stop clubbing, but others want to chill out in boutique hotels, have a holiday romance, eat fabulous meals, get outdoors, explore exotic locations, go sunbathing or shop until we drop.

The difference is that if you are gay or lesbian, you have to think carefully about your destination. Holiday time is precious, so you don't want to invest your hard-earned time and money in a destination, hotel or even an airline that doesn't make you feel welcome. You want to be able to hang out with your partner without encountering abuse from locals. If you're gay or lesbian, you aren't looking for special treatment — you just want to find a place where you can expect the same respect given to all customers.

There are countries where homosexuality is illegal, including several Caribbean, Middle-Eastern and African countries, but there are also plenty of places that actively welcome gay travellers. Classic gay holiday spots include Miami and Key West, San Francisco, Sydney, Paris, London, Amsterdam, Rio and the Greek islands, but hipper destinations for gay fun now include Rome, Madrid, Berlin and even Zurich.

Gay travellers are an adventurous lot. It's well-documented that they were the key demographic to keep flying when straight travellers stayed at home after 9-11.

Read more on page 33 »

R. KENNEDY FOR THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA TOURISM MARKETING CORPORATION

A couple stands in front of Philadelphia's Liberty Bell.

Top gay travel destinations for 2009

These once- expensive, desired destinations are suddenly much more affordable, says Jeff Guarancino. gay tourism expert and vice president of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation:

- Costa Rica
- Mexico
- Manchester
- Australia
- Tel Aviv

METRO WORLD NEWS

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National Geographic photo contest

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BOB KRIST FOR THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA TOURISM MARKETING CORPORATION

A couple dines at the Mansion Inn in New Hope, PA, about 70 kilometres from Philadelphia.

>> Continued from page 32

And it's a market that could prove invaluable to the travel industry during the current economic crisis.

"Despite rising gas prices and the downturn in the economy, gay travellers are more likely than straights to continue with their vacation plans," says gay tourism expert Jeff Guarancino, the vice president of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, a city that's shooting up the gay travel charts thanks to its dynamic calendar of gay events and the 72 rainbow street signs signalling its "gaybourhood."

Travel companies would do well to court gay travellers right now: They travel frequently, are brand-loyal and spend nearly double what their heterosexual counterparts spend on holiday.

The gay and lesbian community in the USA alone spends a staggering $75 billion US per year on travel, explains John Tanzella, executive director of the IGLTA, the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association (iglta.org), the umbrella group for the most gay-friendly travel companies in the world.

"Gays love travel deals," says Guarancino. "And because they largely don't have children at home, they can more easily take advantage of last-minute, off-season and high-season offers. Gay travellers are savvy, so those travel companies, hotels and destinations that have been sincerely committed to gay and lesbian tourism will fare much better than those who will see an opportunity to go after the 'pink dollar' opportunistically."

It makes sense for travel industry players including hotels, tourist boards and airlines are keen to court the gay traveller. Hilton, Accor hotels, American Airlines (aa.com/rainbow), and British Airways have been certified by the IGLTA scheme. They train their staff to be gay traveller-friendly, offer same-sex partnership benefits and market their products in gay magazines.

No-go zones

- Gay travellers should be aware that homosexuality is illegal in Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Morocco, Tunisia, Gambia, Ghana, Mauritius, Mozambique, Kenya, Namibia, Botswana, Lebanon, Oman, UAE (Dubai), Syria, India, Maldives and Malaysia.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Then of course there are plenty of tour operators specializing in travel for gay and lesbians, offering everything from cultural expeditions to hedonistic party cruises. "Adventure travel as well as eco- and volun-tourism are quite popular now," says Tanzella. "Cruises continue to be popular as do Pride events and other GLBT events such as film festivals."

"Gay cruises are hot," adds Guarancino, pointing to the success of the fifth anniversary of Rosie O'Donnell's celebrity gay family cruises run by her GL travel company, R Family Vacations (rfamilyvacations.com).

There are endless reasons to treat yourself to a trip — from gay pride parades and gay and lesbian film festivals, to international gay sporting events.

And of course as more and more countries have opened themselves up to same-sex civil partnerships, the gay honeymoon and wedding markets have also boomed.

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ERI MORITA/TAXI

In addition to the Hawaii islands' many celebrated charms, visitors can enjoy the delights of locally grown coffee. The annual Kona Coffee Cultural Festival takes place Nov. 6 to 15 on the Big Island.

An island of percolated perfection

>> Continued from page 27

Those producing a single bean are referred to as peaberries — considered top crop with a more concentrated flavor leaving a tingle on the tongue.

We then headed to the drying area where beans are pulped, dried and hulled to remove their parchment. Mill machinery sorts the beans into distinctive grades based on size and shape.

With a selection of savory souvenirs I purchased at Greenwell's retail shop, I set off for Mountain Thunder, mountainthunder.com, a five-acre organic farm in Kainaliu. Here, visitors can tour, taste and purchase organic Kona Coffee and green tea grown at 3,200 feet on the slopes of Hualalai. But it's the quality that elevates Mountain Thunder to even greater heights.

Owner Trent Bateman's commitment to the environment, technology and his family are key ingredients that give Mountain Thunder's 100 per centorganic Kona Coffee its true flavor. Bateman believed in the health benefits of foods grown free from harmful herbicides and additives well before organic farming became the mainstream staple it is today.

During a typical farm tour, visitors might be served a cup of coffee by Bateman's wife Lisa, or learn how to roast coffee beans from Bateman himself. Their daughter, Brooke, serves as company roastmaster, and has developed a line of coffee and tea-infused beauty products sold on-site.

The Batemans even employ families of Chinese Geese, St. Croix Sheep and Kona Nightingale Donkeys to help weed the grounds and nuzzle up to visitors — not to mention provide plenty of free organic fertilizer.

Next, I headed further along Highway 11 to Kona Joe Coffee, konajoe.com, in Kainaliu. Established in 1997, the family-owned 20-acre estate has taken a page from wine vineyards by growing its cherries on trellises. The brainchild of owner Joe Alban, the process trains trees by years of meticulous pruning to grow sideways and upward over the patented system.

"It's well worth the effort because trees develop with more uniform sun exposure resulting in more even ripening of the coffee cherry," remarked the tasting room hostess. Aside from a mean cup of Joe, Kona Joe's setting was worth the jaunt. Acres of coffee trees sprawled below the tasting room, with the blue Pacific as a backdrop.

With a few more farms and quite a few more cups of coffee fueling the afternoon, I was compelled to make a final stop at Kona Coffee & Tea Company's retail outlet near the Kona International Airport at Keahole on Queen Kaahumanu Highway, konacoffeeandtea.com.

According to Malia Bolton, director of operations, comparing Kona Coffee to Napa's wine industry is natural.

"We're both regions producing fine quality beverages," she said. "And we share the reputation of coupling these products with memorable experiences."

Bolton added that one of the greatest misconceptions is that there is only one Kona Coffee. "So many people don't understand what a big business this is," she explained.

"There are hundreds of farms producing. So the variety inspires tasters to discover their palate's most desirable flavour."

> **"There are hundreds of farms producing. So the variety inspires tasters to discover their palate's most desirable flavour."**
> Malia Bolton, Kona Coffee & Tea Company

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Abdul joins Divas
With her American Idol judging career behind her, Paula Abdul has inked her first post-Simon gig. Abdul will be hosting VH1's Divas special, which will air Sept. 17 and features Kelly Clarkson, Miley Cyrus, Leona Lewis and others. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

Most dangerous
Jessica Biel has been named the most dangerous celebrity online by security technology company McAfee. The company says searches for Biel are more likely to result in viruses than searches for other celebrities. USMAGAZINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Return of 3-D thrills

Film format has produced its share of gimmicks and gags

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

With 3-D movies slowly taking over multiplexes and glasses-free 3-D televisions only a few years away, it seems like theformat is entering a renaissance.

Given all the hype surrounding 3-D, it's easy to forget that it was once regarded as little more than a gimmick used to bump up the grosses of B-grade sci-fi and horror movies.

This weekend's The Final Destination returns 3-D back to its roots by enlivening a cheesy horror film with visual 3-D gags. With that in mind, we take a look back at some of the great — and not-so-great — horror films and thrillers to be released in 3-D.

The Creature From The Black Lagoon (1954) This classic Universal monster movie has been a staple of costume parties and horror-themed toys for years. But it's often forgotten that the original film was one of the great 3-D hits of the '50s. Though the monster itself is still one of the most memorable to ever be put on screen, the movie is probably best viewed today for nostalgia and camp value.

Dial M For Murder (1954) Alfred Hitchcock briefly dabbled in 3-D with this classic stage adaptation. Rather than simply using 3-D to prod at the audience with pointy objects, Hitchcock used it subtly to create a picture box image that recreated the appearance of watching a stage play. Hitchcock's careful depth-focused framing is quite atmospheric, and yes the master of suspense does include a few pop-up effects to make the audience jump (how could he resist?). Even though the movie represents one of the most effective examples of 3-D filmmaking, it's rarely screened in it's original format.

Andy Warhol's Flesh For Frankenstein (1973) This Andy Warhol produced, Paul Morrissey directed trashy horror flick is a self-conscious camp classic. Every scene features hilariously convoluted dialogue, ridiculously over the top acting, and buckets of fake blood. The quite funny and oddly sexualized Frankenstein reboot should really be seen in any format, but thrives in 3-D where it's just that much sillier. You haven't lived until you've seen Udo Kier deliver his endless dying monologue while a giant spike pokes through his chest, dangling his heart over the audience. Priceless.

Jaws 3-D (1983) and Friday The 13th 3-D (1982) For a while, horror franchises couldn't resist releasing their third film outings in 3-D (the title change was just too easy). Jaws 3 and Friday The 13th Part 3 are probably the most famous examples. Both movies are filled with 3-D gags and little else, but have barely been seen in 3-D since the '80s. Instead, generations of kids have simply wondered why stuff keeps jutting out towards the camera for no apparent reason.

Final Destination returns 3-D back to its roots by enlivening a cheesy horror film with visual 3-D gags.

The Final Destination hits theatres on Friday

Movie **feature**

Flashpoint sets record with 19 Gemini Awards

Flashpoint, the slick Toronto-set crime drama that airs on both sides of the border, leads the pack going into this year's Gemini Awards with a record 19 nominations.

Flashpoint was recognized in the top categories, with nods for best drama, best direction and best writing. Stars Hugh Dillon, Enrico Colantoni and Amy Jo Johnson received acting nominations.

The best guest star in a drama series is also dominated by Flashpoint. Four of the five nominees in that category are from the show: Nicholas Campbell, Henry Czerny, Mpho Koaho and Ron Lea. The fifth nominee is Damir Andrei from Being Erica.

The other contenders for best drama are: Being Erica, The Border, The Tudors and ZOS: Zone of Separation.

The Tudors, the steamy CBC show about King Henry VIII, was well behind Flashpoint with 11 nominations, while Being Erica, Diamonds, Less Than Kind and The Border each received nine.

Comedy nominees included Less Than Kind, Rick Mercer Report, Testees, This Hour Has 22 Minutes and Three Chords From the Truth.

Competing for the title of best reality show are: DisBand, Dragons' Den, GoldMind, Project Runway Canada and The Week the Women Went.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

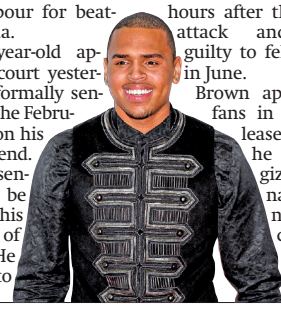
Brown sentenced to probation

PEOPLE A judge says Chris Brown must serve five years of probation and perform six months of community labour for beating Rihanna.

The 20-year-old appeared in court yesterday to be formally sentenced for the February attack on his then-girlfriend. Brown's sentence will be served in his home state of Virginia. He will have to return to Los Angeles frequently to update a judge on his progress.

Brown was arrested hours after the February attack and pleaded guilty to felony assault in June.

Brown apologized to fans in a video released and said he has apologized to Rihanna, who did not appear in court. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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TLC to perform at Timberlake benefit concert

The two surviving members of TLC, are set to play a show on U.S. soil for the first time in seven years — as part of a benefit hosted by Justin Timberlake. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jet fuel up for return

Australian group reunites to make high-energy disc

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

Jet drummer Chris Sester is on the phone outside of a Ramones museum in Berlin. In a few hours the band will play there, but unfortunately they're not covering a song by the legendary punk band. "That would have been great," says Sester, "but we had no time. We're probably the busiest right now than we've ever been."

That's saying a lot, considering the Australian rock foursome dominated the world's music scene in 2003, after they released their huge hit single Are You Gonna Be My Girl. However, Sester isn't actually sure if the band really is busier now than they were back then.

"I don't know if that's right because I can't remember," he says. "For three years it was just one long after party."

Sester sounds like he's joking, but he's not. After Get Born soared up the charts six years ago the group started living the rock 'n' roll high life. They abused drugs, alcohol and partied almost every night.

Jet's new album, Shaka Rock, was released this week.

The band still managed to release Shine On in 2006, but it was a critical and commercial failure (at least compared to their multi-platinum debut). Soon enough the non-stop excess took its toll on the group and Jet, which includes Sester's brother Nic on vocals, parted ways.

"There was a period there where I didn't know what was happening," the drummer recalls. "I wasn't speaking to my brother. I didn't even know if he would answer the phone if I called."

About six months after the group split up Sester received a call from guitarist Cam Muncey. "He's like, 'what are you doing? I'm bored out of my brain. Are we going to do this?'" And just like that the band members convened in New York and showed each other all the songs they had been working on during their downtime.

Eventually the band entered the studio and recorded their third disc Shaka Rock. It's another high-energy rock record, though it's far more infectious and engaging than Shine On.

Even though this doesn't sound like a new band, in a way it is. Sester points out that in order to keep Jet alive, the band had to ditch their label and all the hangers on that enabled their out-of-control lifestyle.

"One of our provisions was that we had to do everything differently," he explains. "We fired everyone that worked for us. We just decided we needed to start again. We produced the record ourselves, didn't record in L.A. and we didn't spend a ton of money."

> **"We just decided we needed to start again. We produced the record ourselves, didn't record in L.A. and we didn't spend a ton of money."**
> Chris Sester

It's clear, just from listening to Sester speak, how excited the band is to be back on the road. And he says they're all getting a long really well — though it's still going to take some time before the friendships are fully repaired.

"I told my brother recently that everyone is getting a long so great, we should move back into the same city instead of living in four different countries," Sester reveals. "He responded, 'Don't push your luck. Let's just take it slow.'"

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metro

Simon signs up for mass murder

Simon Pegg has reportedly signed up to star in Burke and Hare, a black comedy based on the true story of William Burke and William Hare, who sold the corpses of their 17 murder victims to the Edinburgh Medical College for dissection in 1827 and 1828. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

The Incredible Ferrigno hitting T.O.

RAF BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Lou Ferrigno could probably snap you in half but he's more likely to offer a helping hand.

Most famous for his portrayal of The Hulk in the cult-classic television series of the same name, Ferrigno is a gentle giant in the truest sense of the phrase.

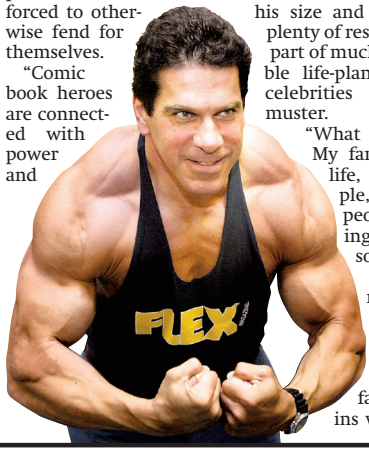
The bodybuilder and actor will be in Toronto this week for Fan Expo and says Canadian fans are no slouches when it comes to pop culture knowledge.

"I just love the fans in Canada and I love coming to Toronto — the fans down there really know who you are. It's a blast," Ferrigno said.

Ferrigno also has another special connection to Toronto: in 1976 he played professional football with the Toronto Argonauts for a few games before dropping pro sports and joining the cast of The Hulk.

A huge fan of comic book characters when he was young, especially Spiderman and The Hulk, Ferrigno muses the reason superheroes like The Hulk stay popular is because they grant a sense of empowerment to kids forced to otherwise fend for themselves.

> **"I love coming to Toronto — the fans ... really know who you are. It's a blast."**
> Lou Ferrigno



"Comic book heroes are connected with power and kids are fascinated with that power because many of them have no defences. From heroes they can draw in inner power, an inner strength," Ferrigno said.

Sometime those heroes might even become real — since 2006 Ferrigno has volunteered as a part-time reserve deputy officer with the sheriff's department in Los Angeles, California. Even without the Hulk makeup, Ferrigno gets attention — and of course his size and stature gets plenty of respect. It's all a part of much more sensible life-plan than most celebrities tend to muster.

"What drives me? My family, a good life, helping people, changing people and being a good person," he said.

While Ferrigno enjoys the recognition and exposure fame brings, his favourite run-ins with fans are the ones where they show him photos of how much weight they've lost and tell him The Hulk was their inspiration for getting into shape.

Ferrigno himself hasn't lost the fire for working out and he even has a new reality show in production tentatively titled The Incredible Ferrignos, in which he and his wife help couples and families shape up and get fit. It's all proof that at the age of 57, Ferrigno still knows how to live up to his Hulk persona.

"I really watch what I eat and I still train with the same passion I've had for 50 years. Guys half my age can't keep up with me — I love it!" Ferrigno said.

As for the burning comic book question: could The Hulk take on X-Men's Wolverine in combat?

"The Hulk would smash Wolverine — he'd get him in a bear hug and it would be over!"

A smashing time

- Lou Ferrigno will appear at Fan Expo in Toronto Aug. 28 through 30. For more information, visit fanexpocanada.com

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Crypt above Monroe's sold at auction
The crypt directly above Marilyn Monroe sold for $4.6 million US in an online auction Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mix of Six

Metro taps into today's best entertainment and event picks

MUSIC National battle of the bands takes place tonight at The Reverb with all four finalists — Purr, Corporate Saturday, Save This City and The Black Rainbows — set to perform. The winner will walk away with the Battala Rockstars title and over $25,000 worth of prizes. The Reverb, 651 Queen St. W., doors at 8 p.m, $10.

WALK ROMWalks heads to The Danforth tonight for a look at the interesting architecture and historic sites in the neighbourhood. The free walk starts at Danforth and Cambridge at 6 p.m. Call 416-586-8097 or visit rom.on.ca.

COMEDY Jo-Anna Downey hosts a free open mic night featuring Debra DiGiovanni, Kate Davis, Simon Rakoff, Miller Crosby, Cleve Jones, and others at 9 p.m. at Spirits, 642 Church St.

SCIENCE The Ontario Science Centre, located at 770 Don Mills Rd., is looking at the science of food with an exhibit you can sink your teeth into — who knew science could taste so good? ontariosciencecentre.ca

THE EX A rock 'n' roll symphony takes over the Bandshell as Michael White and The White perform Led Zepplin hits accompanied by a 50-piece youth orchestra. The concert starts at 8 p.m. theex.com.

OPERA Underground/Opera's continues its performances of Dido and Aeneas at the Winchester Street Theatre, located at 80 Winchester St. The performance includes period instruments mixed with avant-garde video projections. $38/$22. Visit uofttix.ca or call 416-978-8849.

• Have an event you would like to see listed? Send an email to listings@metronews.ca or tweet it to @metrotoronto

Kenya'sStyle
Kenya Hunt
Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit:
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Aykroyd ain't afraid of a Ghostbusters sequel

Dan Aykroyd says that seeing this year's Star Trek reboot has convinced him that a renewed Ghostbusters franchise could also live long and prosper.

But Aykroyd warns that until he has a script for Ghostbusters 3 in his hands, nothing about the sequel is certain.

"I think this last Star Trek was great, they did a really fine job of revivifying those characters," Aykroyd told The Canadian Press in a telephone interview from his farm in Kingston, Ont.

"I'd like to see the torch get passed in sort of a Star Trek manner so that the franchise lives on."

Lee Eisenberg and Gene Stupnitsky — scribes for NBC's The Office — have signed on to write Ghostbusters 3. Aykroyd has said that he and other members of the original cast — including Bill Murray, Harold Ramis and Ernie Hudson — are on board to reprise their roles.

But Aykroyd still sounds cautious about the prospect of another film.

"The old generation of Ghostbusters, we're getting hip replacements now ... We need a whole new cadre of cadets to get us through to a new generation."

Actor Dan Aykroyd on a possible new Ghostbusters movie

"As (Ghostbusters director) Ivan Reitman says — and I quote him now — 'It's all just talk,'" Aykroyd said.

"That's pretty much what we can say. Until we can see a script, until we have casting, until we've got a production number," he added before trailing off. "I'm the biggest cheerleader. I think it's going to happen, but really it's just theory until the production number is stamped."

If the film does get made, Aykroyd figures it's time to crown a new generation of Ghostbusters.

"The old generation of Ghostbusters, we're getting hip replacements now, we can't lift the equipment anymore, the eyesight's fading, we can't drive the car, there's so many things that are just physically breaking down," he said. "We need a whole new cadre of cadets to get us through to a new generation."

Given Aykroyd's unwavering passion for the franchise, he's just as anxious about a sequel as the series' ardent fans.

The idea for the first film — which was released in 1984 and went on to fetch a domestic gross of almost $240 million — grew from Aykroyd's own fascination with the paranormal, which he inherited from his family.

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	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Wipeout (HDTV) (N)		(9:02) In Plain Sight		In Plain Sight (N)		News
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere II	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy!	Dragon's Den (HDTV)		The Tudors (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
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	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Psych		D. Richards	Kendra	Women on Top	Women on Top	News/Eleven
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	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	America's Got Talent (N)		America's Got Talent		Law & Order: SVU		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Wipeout (HDTV) (N)		(9:02) Crash Course		(10:01) Primetime: Crime		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	The Road to Avonlea		America's Got Talent (N)		America's Got Talent		Law & Order: SVU		A News
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	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dr. Phil Lost libidos.		WBZ News (N)	What's-Store	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Model
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cable variety	602	567	27	W	Style by Jury	Friends	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Love It or List It		*The Good Witch* (2008, Drama) Catherine Bell.		
	570	580	29	MM	One Tree Hill		Degrassi: TNG	Instant Star	Making His Band		Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	One Tree Hill
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	115	711	101	TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Histoires-filles	Les Anges de la rénovation		Mollie (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Dupli-Kate* ★
	126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy		Medium		The Closer "Batter Up"		Mediums	Psychic Detect	Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	*Personal Effects* (2009, Drama) Michelle Pfeiffer.				*Pride and Glory* ★★ (2008, Crime Drama), Colin Farrell				*Who Killed Me*
	305	612	306	PIX	*Hanover Street*	(7:25) *A Boy and His Dog* ★★ (1975)			*Unforgettable* ★★ (1996, Mystery) Ray Liotta.				*On My Own*

critics' corner

The Tudors
This episode gives a whole new meaning to the term "doubting Thomas." As Henry (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) begins to feel remorse for having executed Sir Thomas More, Sir Thomas Cromwell (James Frain) sees his power growing. The queen (Natalie Dormer) is having insecurity issues of her own, which aren't helped by the French king's refusal to allow the infant Elizabeth to be betrothed to one of his relatives. 9 PM on CBC

Criminal Minds
Looking back on your childhood is usually filled with happy memories of pony rides, birthday parties and playing catch in the backyard. But not for Dr. Reid (Matthew Gray Gubler). This week, the good doctor embarks on his own investigation into the murder of a boy in Las Vegas years earlier that he strongly believes has a connection to his own childhood. Jane Lynch ("Two and a Half Men") guest stars as Dr. Reid's mother, Diana, in "Memoriam." 9 PM on CBS

President Nick Jonas?
Musician Nick Jonas admits he has aspirations beyond pop music — and they include being the leader of the free world. "I've always said that I would like to be president," the 16-year-old told CNN. "It's kind of my whole thing. I'm starting the campaign now." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

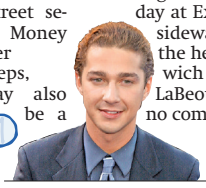
Anti-reality show Candy gets her own show

IRONY After bashing her daughter, Tori, for using her two kids as "reality show props," it looks like Candy Spelling is getting her own show, usmagazine.com reports.

Spelling tells radaronline.com her own show is "sort of" in the works, and added that it would be "scripted."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Shia's film co-star his new fling?



WORKING RELATIONSHIP Shia LaBeouf and Carey Mulligan, co-stars of Oliver Stone's Wall Street sequel, Money Never Sleeps, may also be a pair, people.com reports.

The two were spotted cuddling and kissing Sunday at Extra Virgin, a sidewalk café in the heart of Greenwich Village. LaBeouf's rep had no comment.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Oprah planning NYC bash?

WITH A BANG Oprah Winfrey is planning to shut down parts of a New York City highway next year for a mammoth block party to celebrate the tenth anniversary of her magazine, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The media mogul launched O, The Oprah Magazine nine years ago — and is planning a major party for next May to celebrate the long-running title.

According to E! Online, Winfrey is looking to shut down portions of the city's West Side Highway for a block party for all her fans — in addition to a star-studded musical revue scheduled at Radio City Music Hall.

A City Hall official has confirmed Winfrey has made permit enquiries for the event; however, the star has so far refused to confirm any details.

Her spokesperson said, "While it is too soon to discuss specifics, we are looking forward to celebrating in a big way."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jon: Reality show an obligation

WORSE THAN A DAY JOB? Jon Gosselin wouldn't mind punching the clock instead of appearing on a hit TLC reality show, usmagazine.com reports.

"I wish I had a 9 to 5 job instead of the nightmare I'm living. This is 24/7," he told usmagazine.com outside his $1.1-million US Pennsylvania home Monday. "I don't even want to do taping for the show anymore."

But Gosselin says he's stuck filming and doing promotional appearances to make as much money as possible. (A source also tells the current issue of Us Weekly that he's "suspicious" Kate is hiding cash ahead of their divorce proceedings. They make an estimated $75,000 US per episode.)

"I have two houses and eight children to take care of and I need to work," he told Us. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Katherine pregnant?

RUMOUR MILL Katherine Heigl sparked pregnancy rumours after she and husband Josh Kelley were seen shopping for strollers this weekend, according to Hollyscoop.

The actress also gave up her usual cigarette for a lollipop and was wearing a loose-fitting turquoise dress that could be hiding a baby bump.

Heigl's rep had no comment.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Move over Liam, MiCy's got a new guy

SERIAL DATER? The last we heard about Miley Cyrus' dating life was less than a week ago when he was reportedly spotted sharing a kiss with Liam Hemsworth, her onscreen love interest in the upcoming flick The Last Song, eonline.com reports.

But whatever the two may have had going on wasn't serious, the website muses. Within a couple of hours of landing back in L.A. from the Georgia set, Cyrus was on a date with a new guy, eonline.com added.

The 16-year-old starlet went to the Kings of Leon concert with Carter Jenkins, 17, an actor she briefly dated before she was with underwear model Justin Gaston.

Shortly after Cyrus and Jenkins arrived for the star-studded show, security escorted them to join Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel in the best seats in the house — the technician's booth.

Later, the foursome was spotted going backstage for a VIP after-party.

Carter tweeted after the concert, "KOL killed it. Awesome show & very fun night with MiCy @mileycyrus."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

They grow up so fast: Denise

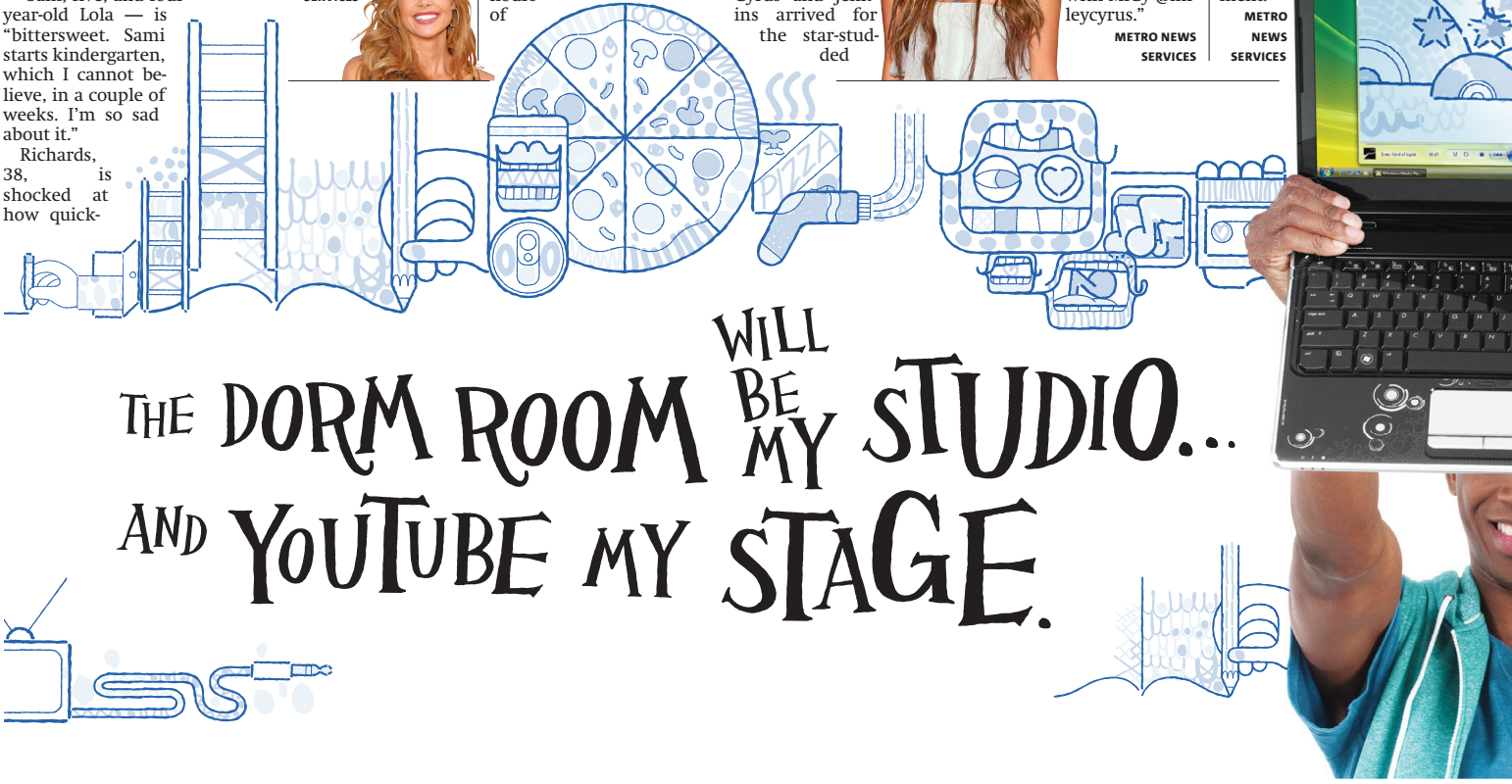
MOTHERHOOD Denise Richards is upset her daughters are going to school, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

She says spending time away from her daughters — Sam, five, and four-year-old Lola — is "bittersweet. Sami starts kindergarten, which I cannot believe, in a couple of weeks. I'm so sad about it."

Richards, 38, is shocked at how quickly the girls have grown up, especially Sam.

She said: "I can't believe how fast five years have gone ... Here on out she's in school."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Amy sues in-law for leaking letter

Amy Winehouse is seeking $80,000 in damages and suing her former mother-in-law, Georgette Fielder-Civil, for copyright infringement after she sold a personal letter Winehouse wrote to Blake Fielder-Civil while he was in prison. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Robin's next role: Susan Boyle?

HILARITY Robin Williams putting on a dress to play Britain's Got Talent star Susan Boyle in a biopic? It may sound ridiculous, but the actor says it's a possibility.

"I've been asked if I want to play Susan in the movie," Williams told the Daily Telegraph. "I think she's incredible." Williams has reportedly been entertaining his friends with impressions of Boyle with a thick Scottish accent similar to his Mrs. Doubtfire character.

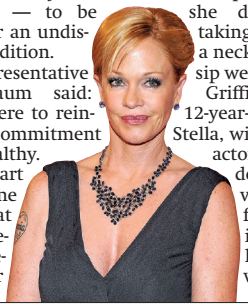
METRO WORLD NEWS

Melanie's third rehab stint

BACKSLIDE Melanie Griffith is in rehab, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The website says the 52-year-old actress has checked into Utah's Cirque Lodge — where Lindsay Lohan and Kirsten Dunst previously received treatment — to be treated for an undisclosed condition.

Her representative Robin Baum said: "She is there to reinforce her commitment to stay healthy. This is part of a routine plan that was designed between her and her doctors years ago."



This is Griffith's third stint in a treatment centre. In 1988, she checked in to a facility to help her battle addictions to alcohol and cocaine. In 2000, she sought help for an addiction to painkillers which she developed after taking medication for a neck injury, the gossip website says.

Griffith — who has a 12-year-old daughter, Stella, with her husband, actor Antonio Banderas — has previously said her family has been instrumental in helping her deal with her personal problems. She also has a 24-year-old son, Alexander, and 19-year-old daughter, Dakota, from previous relationships.

It has been claimed her latest stay in rehab came at the insistence of Banderas, who feared her life was spiralling out of control.

A source is quoted by gossip blogger Perez Hilton as saying: "The reason Melanie checked in was her husband was demanding that she get clean and sober. He told her that if she didn't get the help she needed it would be the end of their marriage."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

TomKat-inspired uniforms?

SARTORIAL The designers creating the new uniforms for the Church of Scientology staff members didn't have to look far for inspiration, taking their cues from high-profile church members Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise, according to the Guardian.

"In its entirety, the uniform embodies the essence of international style, at home in Rome or London, but not out of place in Nashville or Inglewood, and equally well suited to South Africa and Australia," promotional material for the new outfits explained.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Jessica's dog a 'lesbian lova'?

WILD IMAGINATION Jessica Simpson thinks her dog is a lesbian. The singer-and-actress claims her maltipoo pooch Daisy — which was a gift from ex-husband Nick Lachey — has found happiness with a hound called Bella, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Alongside a dimly-lit picture of the dogs, Simpson, 29, tweeted: "Daisy and her best friend Bella back together again. Lesbian lovas forever! (sic)"

While Daisy has found love, Simpson is still bitter she's single after being dumped by football star Tony Romo. It was recently reported she had paid a witch she met on the Internet to put a curse on her ex-boyfriend.

A source said: "They lit a candle, burned some incense and performed a couple of incantations."

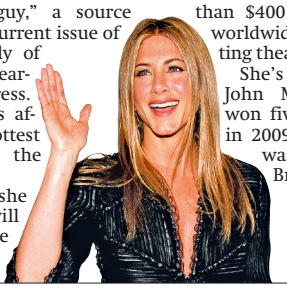
METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

Jen uses boy-toys for fame?

THE RICH AND THE FAMOUS It seems fitting that Jennifer Aniston has been spotted holding hands with Gerard Butler. Friends of the actress say she pursues only guys who can keep her as high-profile as possible, usmagazine.com reports.

"Jennifer won't date a normal guy," a source told the current issue of Us Weekly of the 40-year-old actress. "She goes after the hottest thing of the moment, what she knows will get her the most time in the spotlight," the insider continued.



Aniston is currently filming The Bounty Hunter with Gerard Butler, who starred in The Ugly Truth. Before that, she pursued Bradley Cooper, who anchored The Hangover, which has earned more than $400 million US worldwide since hitting theatres in June.

She's also dated John Mayer (who won five Grammys in 2009 alone) and was married to Brad Pitt.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Britney is my musical muse: Heidi

DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR? Heidi Montag's debut performance at the Miss Universe pageant reminded a lot of people of Britney Spears' infamous snake-charming routine at the 2000 MTV Video Music Awards, and Montag insists it's no accident.

"I grew up watching Britney Spears. That's someone I inspire to be, you know, like, career-wise," Montag told Access Hollywood after the show.

"I think the world is ready for the next pop star and I'm ready to be the next pop galaxy, so here we go."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity tweets

Miley Cyrus laments the less-enjoyable parts of her job, Ashton Kutcher gets a kick out his public persona, John Mayer ignores instructions and Tila Tequila gets philosophical.

- @mileycyrus I am so over taking pictures. I am NOT made to be a "model"
- @aplusk I love that I'm described as the beer drinking party boy with no cash lol!!!
- @johncmayer Smucker's Uncrustables peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are to be thawed and not microwaved. But I'm high now!
- @officialTila You're nobody to Somebody and somebody to nobody.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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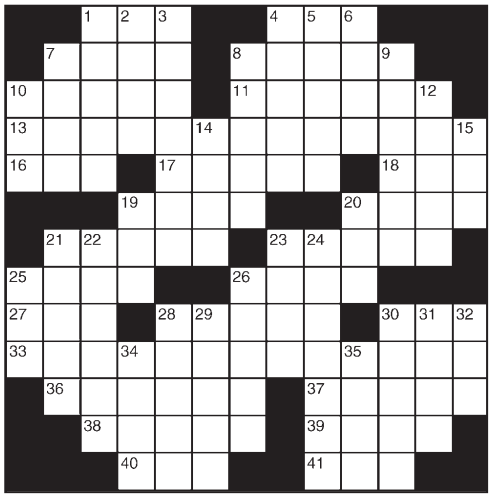


ACROSS

1 Star player, for short
4 Banned bug spray
7 No stay-at-home
8 Matlock's workplace
10 Cole Porter's "Gay" city
11 Like a lot
13 Square 1
16 Aviv preceder
17 Regions
18 Moving vehicle
19 Say it isn't so
20 Lexicographer's bk.
21 Gets dirty
23 Crouch
25 Actress Jessica
26 Libertine
27 Regret
28 Gaggle member
30 "Skip to My –"
33 1996 Ewan McGregor movie
36 Word group
37 Goose egg
38 Twine fiber
39 Initial stake
40 Timid
41 Opener at Vegas?

DOWN

1 Aesopian ending
2 Swerve
3 Knot for human consumption?
4 Evade
5 Writes a Dear John letter
6 Small combo
7 Fence opening
8 Shrewd
9 Miscellaneous data
10 Calif. hours
12 Make into law
14 Charged bits
15 Potent stick
19 24 horas
20 Payable
21 Soup eater's noise
22 Spelling methods?
23 Average
24 100 centavos, in Guatemala
25 Illustrations
26 Force away
28 Grind your teeth
29 English composition
30 Airy airs
31 A single time
32 "Yecch!"
34 Rainbow
35 Turner or Fey

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

9			7		1			8
	7		9		4		5	
		3				6		
		7	8		2	5		
5								7
		1	6		5	3		
		4				2		
	2		4		9		1	
8			3		7			6

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

W	O	R	D		M	O	A		M	A	Y	I		
A	L	O	E		E	G	G		U	S	E	S		
S	I	B	S		C	R	O	N	K	I	T	E		
H	O	S	P	I	C	E		A	L	F	I	E		
			O	V	A		D	R	U					
T	E	S	T	Y		C	O	C	K	P	I	T		
I	R	K			M	O	W			E	T	A		
C	R	I	C	K	E	T		T	O	A	S	T		
			H	E	N		H	A	T					
I	C	I	E	R		S	Y	R	I	N	G	E		
C	O	N	C	R	E	T	E		O	U	R	S		
O	M	S	K		N	U	N		S	L	I	P		
N	E	T	S		D	N	A		E	L	M	O		

7	9	6	1	3	5	2	4	8
3	1	2	7	8	4	9	6	5
8	4	5	6	2	9	7	3	1
9	2	1	4	5	6	8	7	3
6	7	3	9	1	8	5	2	4
5	8	4	2	7	3	6	1	9
2	5	7	8	4	1	3	9	6
1	3	9	5	6	2	4	8	7
4	6	8	3	9	7	1	5	2

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Apple-Stuffed Pork Chops

INGREDIENTS:
1 tbsp (15 ml) chopped onion
1/4 cup (50 ml) butter
3 cups (750 ml) soft bread cubes
2 cups (500 ml) finely chopped apples
1/4 cup (50 ml) finely chopped celery
2 tsp (10 ml) minced fresh parsley
3/4 tsp (4 ml) salt, divided
6 bone-in pork loin chops
1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) pepper
1 tbsp (15 ml) vegetable oil

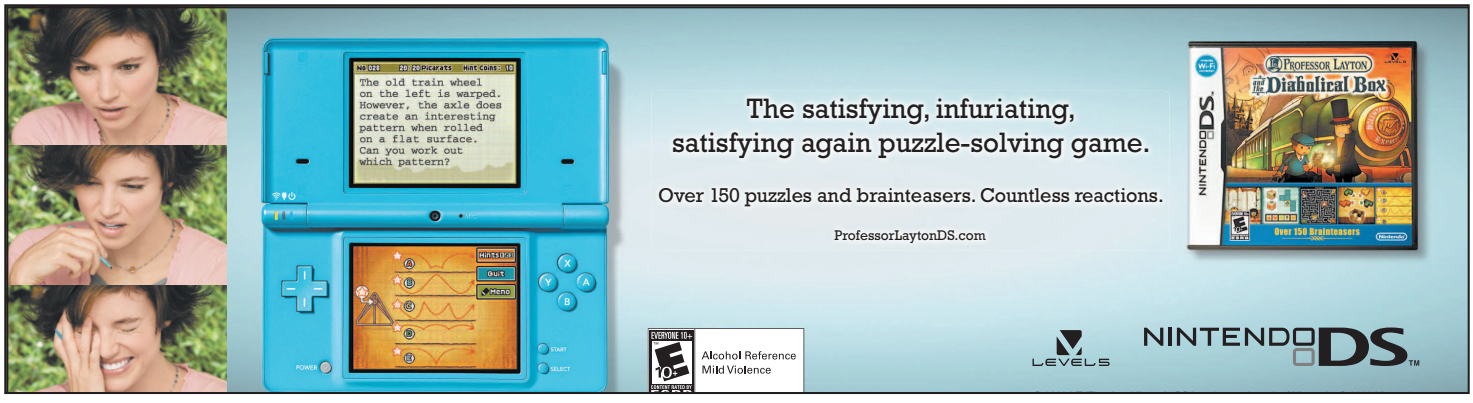
METHOD:
1. In small skillet, sauté onion in butter until tender. Remove from heat; add bread cubes, apples, celery, parsley and 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt.
2. Cut pocket in each chop by making horizontal cut through meat almost to bone. Sprinkle inside and outside with pepper and remaining salt. Spoon stuffing loosely into pockets.
3. In large skillet, brown chops on both sides in oil. Place in large ungreased baking pan.
4. Cover and bake at 350 F (180 C) for 30 minutes. Uncover; bake for 30 minutes longer or until meat thermometer reads 160 F (71 C) when inserted into meat and juices run clear.
5. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam.

Per Serving
364 calories, 19 g total fat, 8 g saturated fat, 15 g carbohydrate, 107 mg cholesterol, 2 g fibre, 32 g protein

SERVES 6

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
The worst possible thing you can do over the next 24 hours is try to guess what other people are thinking.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You have muddled through long enough and unless you get your affairs in order the muddle you're in could cost you dear.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't let other people's doubts hold you back. If there is something you desire then go after it with all you've got.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You may be having second thoughts about something that only yesterday seemed such a good idea.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You speak your mind without fear or favor and the planets indicate you will be even more outspoken than usual today.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Don't take anything on trust today because others will take advantage of you if they think they can get away with it.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
As mind planet Mercury is now transiting your sign any doubts you had about what you were doing will be swept away.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
It may seem as if you are on a steep learning curve at the moment but you are up to the challenge.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Say the right words today and doors that have been closed to you in the past will miraculously open.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You are advised not to take what you hear on the work front seriously today.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You need to stretch yourself mentally today, especially as you have been involved in some rather trivial matters of late.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You need to make an effort to talk to people who can help you reach your full potential.

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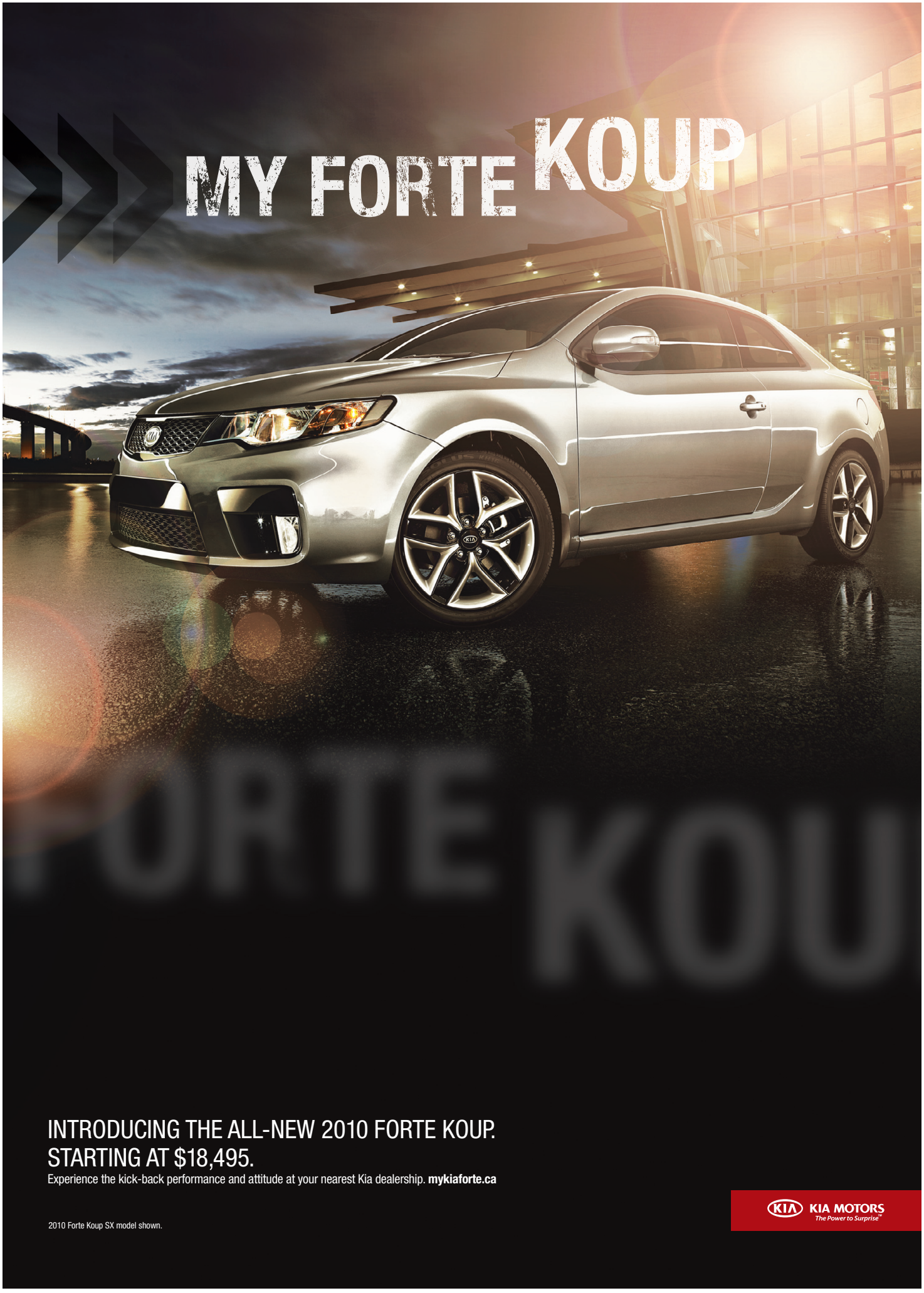
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